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ARAB TIMES

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NO. 7191 TUESDAY, MARCH 8, 1988 RAJAB 20, 1408 AH 18 PAGES 150 FTLS



THE WORLD THIS MORNING

Politician killed

COLOMBO, (Kuna): Tamil Tiger rebels shot dead a popular Muslim local politician, Ahmed Lebbe, 52, in eastern Sammanthurai plunging the multi-racial area into ethnic tension yesterday, security officials said.

Avalanche kills 19

ANKARA, (UPI): At least 19 people including a baby and 500 heads of livestock died in their sleep when an avalanche described as the size of a six-floor building buried eight houses in south-eastern Turkey, officials said yesterday.

Tour postponed

THE HAGUE, (Reuters): A bicycle tour in Israel by prominent Dutch politicians has been postponed indefinitely because of Arab-Israeli violence in the occupied territories, the tour's organisers said.

Search goes on

LONDON, (Reuters): Security forces in Gibraltar are searching for a possible car bomb after three Irish guerrillas were shot dead by soldiers in the British rock colony on Sunday, Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe said. (See Page 2)

Minehunting fleets

ABU DHABI, (Reuters): The Netherlands and Belgium may reduce their minehunting fleets in the Gulf within two months, Dutch Defence Minister Wim van Eekelen said.

10-year-old boy beheaded

TALIGA, Spain, March 7, (Reuters): A man beheaded a 10-year-old boy after a bar argument and threw the head into a blazing fireplace, police sources in the southern Spanish town of Taliga said. They said Manuel Martin Vasquez, 24, held a knife to the boy's throat after an argument with his uncle and ordered everyone out of the bar. He then locked the door, severed the boy's head and threw it into the fire.

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و کربت یس ۲۰ گشتے نیکر غالی غالی
دائے شخص نے خود کو گیس سے کر کے کر کے
و میرا زانکات میں قتل پیرا پیرا
و عرب مذاکرے میں ایک اسرائیلی
سے سے اس کا کوئلہ
و سری لنگا میں ایک مسلمان پاکستان
کا قتل
و ایران عراق کے جاری ہیں
و تھرے و پرفیاتی

WEATHER

PARTLY cloudy weather with moderate to fresh southeasterly wind and a chance for scattered rain. State of sea: Moderate to rough. High water: 2.30 am, 2.30 pm Low water: 8.30 am, 8.30 pm Sunrise: 6.06 am Sunset: 5.53 pm Maximum temperature recorded: Kuwait: 30°C 86°F Ahmedi: 19°C 66°F Falek: 19°C 66°F Maximum temperature expected: Kuwait: 24°C Ahmedi: 22°C 72°F Falek: 23°C 73°F Minimum temperature recorded: Kuwait: 13°C 55°F Ahmedi: 16°C 61°F Falek: 16°C 61°F Maximum humidity recorded: Kuwait: 83 per cent Ahmedi: 85 per cent Falek: 85 per cent Maximum humidity expected: Kuwait: 79 per cent Ahmedi: 82 per cent Falek: 89 per cent

Israelis storm vehicle: six killed, eight wounded

Palestinians hijack bus on way to N-reactor

AROER, Israel, March 7, (Agencies): Three Palestinian commandos hijacked a bus taking workers to Israel's top secret nuclear reactor today and killed a hostage before police and soldiers stormed the bus and shot them dead.

Two more Israelis were killed and eight were wounded during the storming of the bus.

The commandos threw hand grenades and fired a Kalashnikov assault rifle to seize the bus taking workers from Beersheba to the nuclear plant near Dimona, in the Negev desert, where foreign press reports say Israel makes atom bombs.

The driver and most passengers escaped. The commandos took the remaining passengers hostage and demanded the release of all Palestinian prisoners from Israeli jails. Major-General Yitzhak Mordechai, head of southern command, told reporters.

Negotiations

Troops surrounded the bus. After an hour of negotiations, the gunmen shot dead a hostage and wounded two others.

Mordechai immediately ordered a border police anti-terrorist unit to storm the bus. In a two-minute battle, the three commandos were killed and the other passengers rescued, the Army said.

"They shot dead one of the hostages in cold blood and wounded two women. There was no choice," Mordechai said. Army radio identified the dead Israelis as Victor Ran, 39, an engineer and a widower with three children, Miriam Ben Yair, 46, a mother of four, and Rina Shlonsky, a 31-year-old mother of two.

Gunpoint

Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin told Parliament that two Israeli women were killed as the soldiers stormed the bus.

"Their purpose was apparently to take the bus to a populated area," he said.

Eight other women passengers were injured, none severely, and

treated at Beersheba's Soroka Hospital.

The gunmen, who apparently entered Israel from Egypt, earlier commandeered an Army car, forcing out four unarmed soldiers at gunpoint, and drove through a police roadblock with guns blazing before stopping the bus, police spokesman Michael Idan said.

Survivors said the commandos told them they were members of Yasser Arafat's Fatah group, the mainstream movement in the PLO.

Daisy Sorek, one of the passengers unable to leave the bus said the gunmen threatened to kill a passenger every quarter of an hour.

"The rescue action was swift. The soldiers instructed us to duck. To my regret, two more women died, one in front of me, one behind," she told reporters.

An anonymous caller later claimed responsibility for the attack on behalf of Fatah's Force 17 in a telephone call to an international news agency in Jerusalem.

It was the most serious attack inside Israel since a Palestinian uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip began on Dec 9.

Penetrated

Chief of Staff Dan Shomron said in a radio interview that the three commandos penetrated from Egypt in the Sinai desert.

"I believe the Egyptians are not happy about these infiltrations from their frontier and they are taking action—nevertheless, the fact is the last infiltration was one month ago and here we have another infiltration," he said.

Rabin, who flew to the scene of the hijacking by helicopter and witnessed the storming, said the attack was aimed at sabotaging US Secretary of State George Shultz's peace initiative for the Middle East.

Its purpose: war with Israel, hostage-taking. Its victims: women, innocent civilians. Not throwing stones, not throwing petrol bombs, not violent demonstrations but peaceful civilians," he said.

Israeli troops on the rampage

RAMALLAH, West Bank, March 7, (Agencies): Half a dozen teenage Israeli soldiers from a unit with a reputation for brutality went on the rampage today in this West Bank Arab town, sowing panic among motorists and bystanders. They poked rifle barrels into motorists' faces, beat a news photographer, threatened old women, blasted a car with rubber bullets and threw a tear-gas canister so close to themselves they had to retreat.

Just half an hour before and a few miles away, another handful of troops defused a truly explosive situation and turned back 300 demonstrators calmly and without violence.

The incidents, both witnessed by newsmen, followed concern expressed here and abroad about the uneven quality of crowd control training received by Israeli troops based in occupied Arab areas.

Occurred

Both incidents occurred after a call by Palestinian groups to students in the West Bank and Gaza Strip to force their way into schools closed by the Army at the start of the year. The Army says schools were the main centres for the unrest which has swept the two Israeli-occupied areas for three months.

In other developments, a 23-year-old Palestinian Salah-e-Din Al Naqee was shot and killed by Israeli soldiers during a protest in the old Askar refugee camp near Nablus, Palestinian sources said. The Army did not immediately confirm the death.

Also, troops shot and wound-

ed seven Arabs after a grenade was thrown at an Army patrol, injuring one soldier, the Army said.

The grenade attack in the village of Idna was another indication of the increased use of lethal weapons against soldiers. During three months of anti-Israeli unrest that have left 87 Arabs dead, protesters have largely limited themselves to throwing rocks and Molotov cocktails at soldiers.

Shots were fired yesterday at an Army patrol in the Askar refugee camp near Nablus, 40 miles (64 km) north of Jerusalem. On Feb 23, shots also were fired at a patrol, and in recent days homemade explosives have been detonated near patrols. No soldiers have been seriously injured.

The grenade attack in Idna, 20 miles (32 km) southwest of Jerusalem, came at dawn after the Army imposed a curfew to make arrests. In recent weeks, villagers have set ablaze a bus and an Army tank transporter, the Army said.

More than 300 Palestinian women staged a two-hour sit-in at the Damascus offices of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) today to protest at Israeli actions.

In Limassol, Cyprus, officials said today that repair workers have plugged a blast hole torn in a ferry which was to have taken deported Palestinians on a symbolic voyage to Israel.

But it remained unclear if the 6,151-ton Sol Phryne would still go into service as the "Ship of Return" after the February 15 explosion.



Israeli soldiers remove a hostage from the hijacked bus after killing three commandos. (Reuters wirephoto)

Shultz may return to Middle East

Jordan invites Arafat for talks

AMMAN, March 7, (Reuters): Jordanian Information Minister Hani Al Khasawneh said today Amman sees positive elements in the Middle East peace plan proposed by US Secretary of State George Shultz.

A political source said King Hussein, seeking an Arab consensus on the Shultz plan, had invited Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) chief Yasser Arafat to Amman to discuss it.

In Damascus, a high-level Syrian source said Shultz will return to the region if Syria accepts the US peace plan.

Scheme

He said Jordan was studying the American scheme presented to Arab and Israeli leaders last week. "Naturally our reply will correspond with the united Arab stand," he added.

US special envoy Wat Cluversius, touring the Middle East to check the progress of Washington's initiative, arrived in Amman from Riyadh today, an embassy source said.

The political source said Arafat had been invited for what would be his first visit to Jordan since November's Arab League summit.

King Hussein has already discussed the Shultz plan by telephone with the presidents of Syria and Egypt.

The source said Jordanian leaders wanted to encourage the initiative but could not endorse everything in the package.

They believed that an international conference held under United Nations auspices should have power to arbitrate when disagreements arose.

According to a purported text of the US plan published in an Israeli newspaper, Shultz has called for a UN-sponsored con-

ference next month, specifying that it would not be able to "impose solutions or veto agreements reached."

Washington proposes that direct talks between Israel and its Arab neighbours should start immediately after the conference.

Negotiations would hinge on UN Security Council resolution 242, which calls for Israel's withdrawal from occupied Arab lands and says all states in the region have a right to live in peace within secure borders.

It ignores Palestinian demands for self-determination, which last November's Arab League summit implicitly endorsed.

Hailed

The Palestinian Fatah movement hailed the uprising inside the occupied territories, affirming that the recent mission of Shultz in the region aimed at aborting the revolt and extricating Israel from its current dilemma.

The Syrian source said the US may shift its stand through negotiation if Syria decides to stop its campaign against the peace initiative.

The source said that Shultz delivered a message from US President Reagan to Syrian President Hafez Al Assad during his visit to Damascus last Friday. The message dealt with the convocation of an international conference in Geneva on the Middle East situation on April 15 to be attended by the five permanent members of the UN Security Council.

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir postponed making any decision on a US peace plan for the riot-torn occupied territories until several points are clarified during his visit next week to Washington.

Filipino rebels seized town

MANILA, March 7, (Reuters): Communist guerrillas shot dead six Philippine sailors and three civilians near a US base and in a separate attack seized an entire town and held its police force hostage, the Army said today.

It said the sailors were returning to Subic Naval Base yesterday when rebels fired on their jeep six km (4 miles) from the base, also killing three civilian hitch-hikers.

The sailors were from a local unit providing security at Subic, America's biggest overseas naval base.

It was the second major guerrilla attack in four months.

Communist gunmen killed two US servicemen and a retired American airman in ambushes outside Clark Air Base last October and the communists have repeatedly threatened to step up attacks on foreign targets.

On Saturday about 100 rebels in captured government vehicles, seized Abra de Ilog on Mindoro island, 160 km (100 miles) south of Manila after overpowering the town police station and holding six officers hostage.

Iraq intensifies attack on Iran

Casualties mount in missile strikes

BAGHDAD, March 7, (Agencies): Iraq began a second week of missile strikes on Tehran today and said several civilians were killed by an Iranian rocket attack on Baghdad.

An Iraqi military spokesman said Iraq fired three missiles at the Iranian capital bringing the total in eight days to 41.

He said the Iranian rocket landed in Baghdad, killing or wounding a number of civilians and destroying property, about half an hour after the last Iraqi missile was launched.

"The (Iraqi) missiles were fired to avenge the innocent people killed by Iranian attacks on Baghdad and other Iraqi cities," the spokesman said.

Blow

Iran, vowing to match Iraq blow for blow in the "war of the cities," has fired 16 missiles at Baghdad and four at the southern port city of Basra since last Monday.

Iraq has given no specific casualty figures but Iran says at least 230 of its people have been killed and 800 wounded in the latest round of tit-for-tat attacks on population centres.

Iraqi Labour Minister Bakr Mahmoud Rassoul told a conference of Arab labour ministers in Baghdad that Iran was to blame for the attacks.

He said Tehran wanted to "pave the way for its new offensive ... and to undermine UN Security Council resolution 598."

Iran began massing troops along the southern front late last year for an expected offensive against Basra, but no major operation has yet been launched.

Resolution 598, passed in July, orders a ceasefire in the 7-1/2-year Iran-Iraq war and the withdrawal of troops to internationally recognised boundaries.

Raids

Iraq, which has accepted the resolution, says its attacks on Tehran are intended to force Iran to accept it too. Iran insists that Baghdad must first be identified as the aggressor.

Iran said Iraq sparked the present round of raids by bombing a civilian area of Tehran on Feb 27. Baghdad said the bombing sortie hit an oil refinery.

The Iraqi military spokesman said Iran was maintaining a heavy artillery bombardment of Basra and other border towns.

"A number of civilians were killed or wounded and many houses, shops and cars were destroyed when Iranian rockets and long-range artillery shells landed in the city overnight and during the day," he said.

He also said 14 Iranian boats attacked Iraq's dissolved oil terminal in the northern Gulf today, but were repulsed by Iraqi defenders who sank four of the vessels.

Iran said it shot down two Iraqi jets yesterday and captured

one of the pilots, Flight Lieutenant Samir Naji Nassif, 26, whose Sukhoi-20 came down in western Iran. Baghdad said it lost one aircraft.

Iran said Revolutionary Guards fired a missile at a military centre in Mosul in retaliation for "Iraqi attacks on civilian areas and medical centres in Iran." It was the first reported missile attack on Mosul.

Tehran Radio said 30 people were killed and more than 100, mostly women and children, were injured in today's missile attacks on the Iranian capital.

It also said Iraqi air raids killed and wounded an unspecified number of people in the western cities of Hamadan and Bakh-taran and the industrial city of Arak, southwest of Tehran.

Modified

Iraq is believed to be attacking Tehran with Soviet Scud-B surface-to-surface missiles that have been modified to make the long journey to Tehran. Conventional Scuds have a range of about 150 miles.

A Japanese businessman who left Tehran today said in an interview that the missiles were landing near government bureaus and ministry offices in the heart of Tehran but that civilians had taken the brunt of the attack.

Mohammad Javad Larjani, an Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister, said yesterday the gradually improving ties between Moscow and Tehran had suffered a severe setback over the missile attacks. "I told the Soviet President and prime minister that any missile or bomb given to the regime of Iraq by the Soviet Union will first hit Tehran-Moscow relations before hitting Iranian soil," the Iranian official said.

Hundreds of Iranians hurled rocks and firebombs on the Soviet Embassy in Tehran yesterday during a demonstration against Iraq's use of Soviet missiles against Tehran. Iranian students also marched on the Soviet consulate in Isfahan.

Shifting

The Indian embassy in Tehran has begun shifting its personnel to safer places.

One of the Iraqi missiles landed close to the Indian chancery. No damage was however reported and all personnel were safe.

The West German government warned citizens today against travelling to Iran or Iraq, citing recent developments in the Gulf war.

Iran today said its anti-aircraft forces fired warning shots towards US Navy helicopters in the Gulf on Sunday, forcing them to flee.

The Iranian News Agency, Irna, said Iranian Navy radar operators detected the two helicopters approaching an Iranian zone and warnings were radioed to the Americans.

Soviets may agree to arms embargo on Iran

By Jadranka Porter

THE escalation in the war of the cities in the Iran-Iraq conflict and the rioting outside the Soviet Embassy in Tehran may expedite the approval of the UN arms embargo resolution against Iran, according to a British member of Parliament.

David Howell, the chairman of the House of Commons foreign affairs select committee said the intensification in the war of the cities must increase the attention and sense of urgency in efforts to solve the conflict.

Tour

He also expressed hope that the riots outside the Soviet Embassy in Tehran will influence the Soviets in a "positive manner", eliciting an early Soviet approval of the arms embargo against Iran.

Howell is heading an 11-member delegation which is currently conducting a study tour of the Gulf states which will also take them to Saudi Arabia, the UAE and Oman. The parliamentarians are conducting an inquiry into the British policy in the Gulf and their report will be presented

(Continued on Page 4)



Police receiving a message from Farraj, who looks at securitymen (inset) from the roof of his house. (Picture by Javed Basra)

End of hostage drama

Kuwaiti surrenders peacefully

By-Lima Al Khalafawi

A KUWAITI, who held 15 members of his family hostage at gunpoint at his home in Firdous area, surrendered peacefully yesterday ending 72 hours of tension in this suburb.

Farraj Nussar Farraj barricaded himself in his home on Saturday morning after firing shots at colleagues in his office.

Farraj waved a white flag of surrender from the roof of his house at 4.30 yesterday, walked

out of the front door of his house and shook hands with one of the policemen, who had kept an around-the-clock watch of the house.

Farraj was later admitted to the Psychiatric Hospital.

Farraj, an employee at the Ministry of Communications in Shuwaikh, arrived at work on Saturday at 11.00 am and asked the head of the Personnel Affairs Department to give him a list of the names of those whose nationalities had been withdrawn.

The head of the department,

thinking the request suspicious, contacted the Interior Ministry and had Farraj, who holds Kuwaiti nationality, Article 2, followed.

Seeing that he was being followed, Farraj pulled out a gun and began firing at employees while leaving the ministry building and driving towards the Sulabiya area. Farraj continued to fire at securitymen and then headed towards Firdous where he lives.

(Continued on Page 4)

52 killed in three days of rebel attacks

Sri Lankan troops replace Indians in Sinhalese villages

COLOMBO, March 7. (UPI): Hundreds of Sri Lankan troops today replaced Indian soldiers protecting ethnic Sinhalese villages in parts of eastern province, after 52 people were killed in three days of Tamil rebels attacks, the military said.

Brig. Denzil Kobbekaduwa said about 1,000 Sri Lankan soldiers were deployed yesterday along the main road linking the port of Trincomalee with towns in the interior of the province.

Speaking by telephone from Trincomalee, 150 miles (240 km) northeast of Colombo, Kobbekaduwa said that troops would be reinforced later in the week and their area of operations extended.

The move is part of a plan aimed at coaxing home some 40,000 Sinhalese villagers who fled a wave of Tamil rebel attacks

beginning last September and have balked at returning because of a lack of confidence in Indian troops.

Indian forces were deployed in Tamil-dominated eastern and northern provinces under a July 29 Indo-Sri Lankan accord aimed at ending the island's civil war, and were obliged by the pact to disarm guerrillas of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), which has rejected the peace plan.

The accord required Sri Lankan forces — dominated by the majority Buddhist Sinhalese ethnic community — to return to their barracks in Tamil areas.

But to persuade Sinhalese refugees to return to their homes, New Delhi and Colombo agreed in January to replace Indian troops with Sri Lankan soldiers in Trincomalee district's Sin-

halese areas.

A Defence Ministry official said the government informed India yesterday that it was implementing the plan following three days of LTTE attacks on Sinhalese that left 52 people dead, including 27 in a landmine blast on Saturday.

Provision

The attacks were apparently aimed at thwarting the return of the refugees, which must be completed before implementation of the accord's provision requiring an election of an administration for a province to be formed by merging northern and eastern provinces.

The new province would be Tamil-dominated and given some autonomy from the Sinhalese-controlled central government to meet Tamil demands

for an independent nation.

In New Delhi, Minister of State for External Affairs Natwar Singh reiterated to parliament a rejection of an LTTE offer for a truce and negotiations if India withdraws most of its troops. He repeated the LTTE must disarm and endorse the peace plan before talks can be held.

The LTTE is the only one of five militant Tamil organisations still fighting for the independent nation they say the island's mostly Hindu Tamil minority requires to escape years of discrimination by the Sinhalese.

In the eastern province capital of Batticaloa, 150 miles (240 km) east of Colombo, 58-year-old Annamma David, began the 17th day of a "fast unto death" launched to press India to agree to the LTTE's offer.



A Tibetan monk along with other Tibetans trying to break a police cordon in New Delhi, during protests against the recent crackdown in Lhasa by Chinese government. (Reuter wirephoto)

Nine killed in Tibet unrest

Police seal off Lhasa

BEIJING, March 7. (Agencies): Up to nine people have been killed in renewed unrest in Tibet, embarrassing China at a time when Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian is visiting the United States. Western diplomats said today.

Armed police have sealed off the centre of Lhasa and arrested dozens of people in a security crackdown, sources in Lhasa said today.

The Lhasa sources said authorities have mounted a security sweep and arrested dozens of people. Hundreds of armed police have taken up positions in the city centre around the Jokhang Temple, the site of the protest, and sealed off the area.

Restored

Westerners returning to Peking from Lhasa last night said thousands of Tibetans attacked cars, threw stones at police and scuffled with Chinese journalists covering a holy Buddhist festival.

They said police used teargas to disperse rioters and gunfire was heard after dark.

The official New China News Agency said one policeman was thrown to his death from a window after demonstrators stormed a building where he was

observing demonstrations. At least 28 other people were injured.

The official People's Daily said order had been restored yesterday, but this could not be independently confirmed as communications with Lhasa have been disrupted.

The diplomat said the violence could lead to a toughening of China's policies in the remote region, scene of sporadic outbreaks of pro-independence violence. At least six people were killed last October in riots.

"This obviously is a loss of face," said a western diplomat in Beijing. "It is an embarrassment to China."

That view was echoed by other envoys in the Chinese capital.

"It will complicate Wu's visit," said a US diplomat.

Wu arrived in Washington yesterday for talks with President Reagan and Secretary of State George Shultz.

Affect

China's Foreign Ministry declined to comment on how the unrest would affect the talks.

Attacks by US congressmen on China's human rights record in Tibet contributed to a cooling of relations between Washington

and Beijing last year. China has condemned what it called outside interference in its internal affairs.

Western diplomats said they did not expect a return to the hardline anti-religious policies of a decade ago.

"But there has been a faction advocating a tougher line. If the situation worsens we could see a somewhat tougher line," one said.

The New China News Agency quoted Tibetan officials as demanding justice against the rioters.

Tibetan exiles rushed Indian police lines in New Delhi today during a demonstration called in support of pro-independence protests in Tibet.

Several Tibetans among the 300 demonstrators, who included Buddhist monks, women and teenagers, were slightly injured when police prevented them marching to the presidential palace.

A Buddhist monk was knocked to the ground when he attacked police who took away the Tibetan flag he was carrying. Other protesters waved multicoloured Buddhist religious flags as they struggled with police.

Ershad frees two opponents after polls

DHAKA, March 7. (Reuter): Bangladesh President Hossein Mohammad Ershad freed two opponents today jailed ahead of elections last week which the opposition dubbed a farce.

"Keeping them in jail is now useless," Home Minister Abdul Matin told Reuters.

Shamsul Huq Choudhury, President of the Supreme Court Bar Association, and journalist Faiz Ahmed were both released.

Opposition parties, which boycotted the March 3 parliamentary election, say nearly 5,000 activists have been jailed since they launched an anti-Ershad campaign last November.

Three IRA men shot dead in Gibraltar

GIBRALTAR, March 7. (UPI): Security forces shot to death three unarmed Irish Republican Army fighters who planned a bomb attack on a Changing of the Guard ceremony in Gibraltar, the British crown colony perched on a rock at the foot of Spain, authorities said today.

The British Army admitted today no weapons were found on the three dead guerrillas killed yesterday but Armed Forces Minister Ian Stewart said British troops were "justified" in shooting because the top-level IRA guerrillas, who included a woman, had been planning "a very serious" bombing that could have killed tourists gathered to watch the Changing of the Guard ceremony.

In Belfast, the IRA, which is fighting to end British rule in Northern Ireland, issued a brief statement saying the three people killed in Gibraltar were members of an IRA "active service unit."

"None of the volunteers were armed when they were shot so there could not have been a gun-battle," the statement said.

Hundreds of tourists who cross the border from Spain each day to visit the historic "Rock" attended the weekly guard ceremony and dozens could have been killed or wounded had the bomb exploded on schedule, authorities said.

British military sources said the three IRA members were running away from the scene and shot near the Gibraltar airport when they refused commands to halt.

Waldheim admits knowledge of interrogations

LONDON, March 7. (UPI): Austrian President Kurt Waldheim, under fire for his service in the German Army during World War II, acknowledged that he knew about the interrogations of six captured British commandos apparently destined for summary executions but adds, "don't forget, it was war."

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher already has opened an investigation into the former UN Secretary-General's possible involvement with the disappearance and presumed executions of the six World War II commandos in defiance of the Geneva convention on war crimes.

Resign

Waldheim, who is resisting calls to resign over allegations he helped in the Nazi Holocaust as a German Army lieutenant, said in a British television interview broadcast yesterday that he knew the commandos probably would be summarily executed "a violation of international war conventions."

Interviewed in his Vienna office, a nervous-looking Waldheim was pressed about the fact that his initials were found on a report on the prisoners.

"There were people, of course, in the staff which did the interrogations, but this was not done by me," said Waldheim, who served as a German Army intelligence officer in Greece. "It was done by some of my colleagues who were working in the same department. I was not personally involved in this."

But under repeated questioning from his interviewer he said he knew the commandos probably would be executed.

Dissidents

Matin said many opposition supporters would gradually be freed.

Human rights group Amnesty International appealed to Ershad last week to free all dissidents.

Ershad's Jatiya has won 238 of the 279 seats so far declared in the 300-seat parliament.

Thirteen people were killed in fighting during the election which mainstream opposition leaders say was rigged.

Feeling

A high-ranking Irish government source, however, said although he did not know the "specifics of the case it will give rise to a further surge of feelings that British troops have a shoot-to-kill policy," against the IRA and do not seek to make arrests.

Spanish police spied the IRA trio weeks ago on Spain's Mediterranean coast and tipped off British authorities, the Interior Ministry in Madrid said.

After the three guerrillas were killed, police found and deactivated a bomb packed with 1,100 pounds (500 kg) of explosives and hidden in a Spanish-registered white Renault parked 500 yards (m) from the governor's residence in the centre of town.

Involved

"Obviously (they) were involved in a terrorist act and under those circumstances, provided normal procedures were followed, they (security forces) were justified in doing what they did," he said.

British sources said the IRA guerrillas were apparently aided by the Basque separatist group ETA because their car-bomb was loaded with Goma 2 — a plastic explosive used repeatedly by ETA in its campaign for a separate Basque homeland.

Eyewitnesses to the shooting said men in plainclothes with British accents had been in the area immediately before, suggesting the guerrillas were killed in an operation by the secret Special Air Services commandos. SAS commandos are often used against the IRA in Northern Ireland and last year ambushed and killed eight IRA men planning to bomb a police station.

Correct

His interviewer on British television's "The World This Week" programme then asked, "you knew about it, but you didn't do anything personally?"

"Ja, that is about the correct statement," replied Waldheim. "But I find it surprising that knowledge of certain things should constitute guilt. Don't forget, it was war."

'Bomb proof' ship

PORTSMOUTH, England, March 7. (Reuter): A container vessel converted into a British navy air training ship began operations today with officials claiming it was "bomb proof."

The 28,000-tonne "Argus," larger than the navy's aircraft carriers, was converted over 41 months from a roll-on roll-off container ship at a cost of £65 million (\$117 million), officials said.

The vehicle deck was turned upside down and five feet (1.5 metres) of concrete were laid below the flight deck to add stability, they said.

Active

Military sources in London said the bomb was set to go off tomorrow during a colourful Changing of the Guard ceremony by the Anglian Regiment of the British Army. Before transferring to Gibraltar a year ago, the regiment had served in Northern Ireland.

Ecevit steps down

ANKARA, March 7. (Reuter): Former Prime Minister Bulent Ecevit, a Turkish national hero who led ordered troops into Cyprus in 1974, stepped down today as head of the Democratic Left Party (DLP) but vowed to stay in politics.

Forcibly

The agreement is contingent on Delvalle accepting the Crusade's own programmes for restoring democracy, he said. This is believed to mean that should Noriega step down, Delvalle would head only an interim government pending free elections.

The Crusade has fought a largely ineffective eight-month campaign to oust Noriega, who has been indicted in Florida on drug trafficking and corruption charges.

In Washington, US Vice-President George Bush has suggested the possibility of seizing Noriega to face US drug trafficking charges, but stopped short of advocating such a move.

Bush said in a television interview he wanted General Noriega removed as Panama's de facto ruler by constitutional means, but then cited the capture abroad by US agents of two suspected Middle Eastern terrorists.

Panamanian opposition to support Delvalle

PANAMA CITY, March 7. (Reuter): Panama's opposition parties and civil resistance groups are ready for the first time to support ousted President Eric Arturo Delvalle in a united front against military strongman General Manuel Antonio Noriega, opposition leaders said today.

Civic Crusade leader Aurelio Barria told reporters an announcement would be made on a new coalition "to fight for the restoration of democracy in Panama."

It will be the first time the ousted President will have won backing from the opposition.

recognised by Washington as the legitimate head of government but had not been accepted by opposition groups.

The fact that he was a non-elected Noriega appointee more than two years ago had prompted doubts of his chances of becoming a realistic rallying point for political opposition to the military regime.

"We know he was guilty of presiding over some unpleasant occurrences, but we are interested in uniting opposition here," one Crusade leader said.

Opposition protests Rajiv's move

NEW DELHI, March 7. (Reuter): Indian opposition leaders walked out of Parliament today in protest at the government's dissolution of the Punjab state assembly.

Sikh, Hindu and left-wing parties said the dismissal of the 117-member assembly in Chandigarh was unlikely to bring peace to Punjab where more than 325 people have been killed in Sikh separatist violence this year.

Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi dissolved the assembly yesterday two days after releasing five Sikh high priests and 40 Sikhs jailed without trial for separatist sympathies.

The two moves were expected to herald the opening of a dialogue between the government and Sikh hardliners, and fresh state elections.

Defended

Deputy Home Minister P Chidambaram did not mention elections when he defended the moves today in the Lower House.

He described the continuation of the assembly as purposeless and futile. He said the government would introduce a bill to extend direct rule of Punjab from New Delhi beyond May 11.

Rajiv sacked Punjab's moderate Sikh government last May 11 for failing to curb separatist killings, suspended the assembly and imposed direct rule for one year.

Afghan talks deadlocked

GENEVA, March 7. (Reuter): Pakistan called on Afghanistan today to make the next move as UN-sponsored talks appeared deadlocked over the issue of the formation of a new government in Kabul.

Asked if any progress had been made at the session, which lasted less than two hours, Pakistani chief delegate Zain Noorani told reporters: "I do not have to make any progress. The other side has got to make progress."

Host to some three million Afghan refugees, Pakistan is insisting on a coalition to replace the present Soviet-backed regime to ensure that the Afghans go home after the withdrawal of an estimated 115,000 Soviet troops.

"We feel the formation of an interim government is as important as signing a treaty," Noorani, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, said last night as he returned to Geneva from consultations with his government and opposition leaders.

Ancient treasures found

LONDON, March 7. (Reuter): A grandson of the man who helped discover the tomb of Tutankhamen has unearthed a hoard of Egyptian artefacts hidden in the family's home for more than 60 years, the Times of London reported today.

The tomb of Egyptian King Tutankhamen, who lived about 3,338 years ago, was found almost intact in 1922 by explorers Howard Carter and the Earl of Carnarvon, in a major boost to Egyptology.

Unused

The antiquities were discovered when a 75-year-old retired family butler helped the present Lord Carnarvon compile an inventory at Highclere Castle, in the south England county of Hampshire.

The old retainer agreed the task was almost completed, "except for the Egyptian stuff,"

the Times said.

The butler then led the way to two hidden cupboards, an unused document-room and a housekeeper's drawer where most of the 300 objects were found.

"The discovery fills the remaining gaps of the extraordinary story of the finding of the tomb of Tutankhamen — the greatest Egyptian find in history — by the fifth Earl (also Lord Carnarvon) and Howard Carter," the Times said.

One of the most valuable objects was a wooden face of Tutankhamen's grandfather, it said.

It said the objects were uncovered in Egypt by the two men during several archaeological digging sessions before their Tutankhamen find or bought by Lord Carnarvon to add to his collection.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Power-sharing

PARIS, March 7. (Reuter): French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac yesterday ruled out a new era of power-sharing between a socialist president and a conservative government after this year's presidential election.

His comments put an end to a controversy in the ranks of France's rightist camp over what to do if Socialist President Francois Mitterrand wins a new mandate in May.

Chirac, who is challenging Mitterrand for the presidency, has ruled in uneasy tandem with the Socialist leader since the March 1986 parliamentary elections gave the centre-right a ruling majority.

Buried treasure

MANILA, Philippines, March 7. (AP): President Corazon Aquino's staff has issued 47 permits since August to allow foreigners and Filipinos to dig for buried treasure, records at the presidential palace show.

Records made available to the Associated Press show the 47 permits allowed eight foreign and 39 Filipino teams to dig in 49 areas of the country, including Corregidor Island and Fort Santiago.

Corregidor, at the entrance to Manila Bay, is the sight of the world war II siege by Japanese troops. Fort Santiago, a 16th-century Spanish fortress in Manila, was used by the Japanese as a prison in World War II.

Prisoners escape

LONDON, March 7. (AP): Seven prisoners, including two charged with murder, overpowered four policemen at a magistrates' court, locked them in the cells and escaped, Scotland Yard said today.

The London police force said the seven men attacked a sergeant and three constables guarding the cells at Western magistrates' court in southwest London and fled last night.

The breakout was discovered by night-duty officers who arrived at the court three hours later, police said. Another five prisoners were found in the cells.

Ban on maids

MANILA, March 7. (Reuter): A worldwide ban on Philippine women working as domestic helpers may be lifted shortly in at least Hong Kong and Singapore, President Corazon Aquino suggested yesterday.

Aquino said the two Asian centres along with Jordan now represented "no problem" for the Philippines, which is seeking to protect its workers abroad after repeated complaints that Filipina maids were being sexually abused and subjected to near-slave labour, working conditions.

New treatment

LONDON, March 7. (Kuna): A new treatment is to be tried out on women with breast cancer at a leading British hospital, it was reported today.

Doctors at Manchester's Christie Hospital, northern England have already tested the treatment in patients with lung cancer and believe it may boost the chances of survival.

A second trial involving between 20 and 30 women with advanced breast cancer is now about to go ahead.

Overtime ban

LONDON, March 7. (Reuter): Britain's National Union of Miners (NUM) has voted to end a five-month overtime ban, in a blow to the militant leadership of Arthur Scargill who was narrowly re-elected last month.

The NUM announced yesterday that more than half of the union's 90,000 members voted on Friday to end the ban which began last September in protest against a new disciplinary code introduced by British coal.

Douaihy dies

BEIRUT, March 7. (Reuter): A Christian Maronite member of the Lebanese parliament, father Simaan Douaihy, died of a heart attack today, parliamentary sources said.


Douaihy, 67, deputy of the northern town of Zghorta, was elected in 1972. No elections have been held since then because of the civil war which broke out in 1975.

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Day 9

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Sheikh Jabor Mubarak Al Hamad opening the meeting.

Isbo meeting opens

Confront Zionist propaganda, urges information minister

THE 8th general assembly for the Islamic Broadcasting Organisation (Isbo) opened its three-day meetings yesterday under the auspices of Information Minister Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Hamad, in the attendance of Social Affairs and Labour Minister Sheikh Nasser Mohammed Al Ahmed, members of the participating delegations and other ranking officials.

Sheikh Jaber, who was delegated by HH the Amir to patronise the meetings, welcomed the participants, expressing Kuwait's happiness to host this gathering.

Repression

Addressing the conferees, the information minister expressed his country's readiness to continue its efforts towards restoring occupied Palestine and ending the Iraq-Iran war.

In the field of information, Sheikh Jaber recalled two sections of the resolutions passed by the fifth Islamic summit held early last year in Kuwait, namely implementing the information

plan to confront anti-Islamic Zionist and foreign propaganda and set up an information strategy which displays the various aspects of life in the Islamic world.

In another address, chairman of Isbo's executive council Fouad Al Farsi expressed his thanks to the state of Kuwait for hosting and patronising these meetings. He also thanked the information minister and other ministry officials for the efforts they exerted to bring these meetings to a success.

Al Farsi noted that the information has become the trait of this era, "through which we can spread the word of Allah (God), back the Islamic call and confront atheist propaganda against our Islamic values and belief."

He called on member states to contribute with all its information potentials to support the Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories which faces the most vicious kinds of repression at the hands of the Israeli government.

The Isbo official said that Israel has unveiled its "real ugly face" to the world, indicating that all of Nazism's misdeeds do not even approach Israeli tyranny and arrogance.

He proposed that the final communiqué of these meetings includes sending a cable of thanks to H.H. the Amir of Kuwait, a salute to the Palestinian people for its sacrifices and finally directing a call to the Islamic world to work for a speedy halt to the Iraq-Iran war through the implementation of security Council resolution 598.

Ideal

Ahmed Farraj, Isbo's secretary general affirmed that the mass media has become an ideal means in boosting Islamic solidarity and defending Islamic causes, indicating that time is ripe to set up a new Islamic information system within the framework of the awaited first conference for Islamic foreign ministers.

He said that the organisation has realised several accomplish-

ments and produced hundreds of television and radio programmes, noting that Isbo is still eager to take bigger strides despite the financial hardships it undergoes.

Meanwhile the executive council of the Isbo endorsed a programme for teaching the Arabic language for non-Arabs.

Ahmed Farraj said upon the conclusion of the final meeting for the council yesterday it decided that member states which co-finance the programme comprising 135 television episodes, receive free copies of the programme.

Farraj added, in a statement to Kuna, that countries not able to purchase the programme which will be in French and English, will be given copies of it.

He indicated that the council, which meets on an annual basis, reviewed the fiscal report and urged members to pay their overdue obligations for the organisation, noting that a special committee comprising Saudi Arabia, Jordan and the secretary general will be formed to visit Isbo members for this purpose.

KUWAIT PRESS DIGEST

War of annihilation

AKUWAMI newspaper yesterday warned against the dangers of the expansion of the Iran-Iraq war, which is currently in its 8th year.

In an editorial, Al Rai Al Aam newspaper said the war of cities between Iran and Iraq which was renewed last week constitutes the deterioration and the disaster the conflict has gone through because it changed from a military conflict "to a war of annihilation against civilians in the two Muslim countries."

The newspaper criticised the two superpowers for working to prolong the war and stressed that the time is ripe to stop the bleeding.

Shultz's peace efforts

AL ANBAA newspaper expressed doubt over the US Secretary of State George Shultz's efforts to achieve peace in the Middle East, saying that the recent visit of Shultz to the region indicates that the US policy is in "real trouble."

Editorially, the paper said that the shuttle trip of Shultz means that the US administration is more aware than Israel of the dangers of the continuation of the current Palestinian uprising.

Shultz's return to the region for the second time means that his first visit was a "failure," Al Anbaa said, adding that his return aimed at saving his country's credibility.

The daily pointed out that the United States is trying its best to abort the uprising, but asserted that this time it's not easy as it used to be, and Israel has to pay "dearly" in order to halt the revolution.

It noted that Washington is well aware that the continuation of the uprising as the result of Israeli atrocities will anger the US and world public opinion and will reduce US and European Jewish aid to Israel.

The daily, however, affirmed that Israel is a symbol of savage oppression against children and elderly.

Therefore, the paper insisted that any resolution to solve the Mideast crisis will not be "effective" unless it is accepted by the Palestinian people, and Washington should get ready to sit at a negotiation table with the Palestinians.

Science club moves to new premises

KUWAIT Science Club moved to their new premises yesterday with a ceremony honouring the Minister of Public Works Abdul Rahman Al Houti.

The Communications Minister and chairman of the club Abdullah Al Sharhan, speaking at the ceremony, expressed his appreciation for the support given by HH the Amir and HH

the Crown Prince and Prime Minister to the club.

Al Houti expressed his appreciation to club officials for their efforts in the interest of the country and their help with the development of the talents of children.

Al Sharhan presented Al Houti and other club officials with commemorative plaques.



Kuwait's Communication Minister and chairman of Kuwait Science Club presents Al Houti (right) with a commemorative plaque as the club celebrates the move to its new premises.

Advertising agency wins highest billing

MADCO Bahrain, a member of the Madco Group Advertising/Marketing, has been recognised for the second year in a row as the advertising agency with the highest billing on Bahrain TV in 1987.

Mr Burhan S. Beidas, the managing partner of the Madco Group, congratulated the man-

agement and staff of Madco Bahrain on their achievement.

The news of Madco Bahrain's winning performance comes in a year that the Madco Group Advertising/Marketing celebrates 20 successful years in the Middle East.

Sheikh Nawaf receives Yugoslav officials

KUWAITI Defence Minister Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmed yesterday received the director general of the Yugoslav Premier's Office and the director of Federal Department for Marketing Special Products and Spare Parts.

Sheikh Nawaf discussed with the Yugoslav officials, who are on a few days visit to the country, military cooperation and situation in the Gulf region.

The meeting was attended by senior officials at the defence ministry and the Yugoslav ambassador here.

Egypt-Kuwait ties praised

EGYPTIAN International Cooperation Minister Maurice Makram-Allah in a press statement published here yesterday praised the Kuwait-Egyptian bilateral relations.

Makram-Allah told a Kuwaiti newspaper that the Kuwait-Egyptian relations are developing, pointing out that his country has recently received from Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development \$32 million loan to develop Rosetta (Rashid) coast and to promote medicine industry.

He asserted that the restoration of Egypt's membership in the Arab Funds for Development will help his country solve its economic problems, clarifying that Egypt already paid its financial commitments to these funds.

The minister pointed out that his country is in debt to some European and Asian countries with a sum of \$11 billion and that currently it is negotiating with creditor countries to schedule Egypt's debts.

He concluded that Egypt has agreed with 8 European countries to schedule its debts according to Paris club agreement and 7 other European countries will start another round of negotiations for this purpose.

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Concern over children wasting their time

IN spite of the economic slump in Kuwait which began in 1982, the import of toys has not decreased. And there has been some concern expressed that children in Kuwait spend a disproportionate amount of time playing with toys rather than reading.

The director of Public Relations at the National Council for Culture, Arts and Letters, Salwa Al Kuham said the council had played a significant role in attempting to balance the time children spent with books and toys.

She said the council used to organise an annual book and toy fair with books displayed for a wide range of ages and interests.

She encouraged parents to

select the books and toys for their children carefully. However, one toy dealer, Mahmoud Ghunaim, expressed the opinion that parents should allow their children the freedom to choose their own toys. He added that children in Kuwait prefer toys they can watch and be amused, while children in developed countries prefer toys they can manipulate by hand. Most boys want remote control cars, he said, and girls want dolls. He said there was relative little demand for educational toys.

He complained that there were no controls on imported toys and an absence of specified standards.

Sales

There are about 200 toy shops in Kuwait, which reportedly enjoy very good sales during Eid and on other special occasions. Toys on the market are imported primarily from Taiwan and range in price from KD4 to KD50.

Fiction, non-fiction and reference books are readily available in Kuwait, with 70 per cent of the books imported from the United Kingdom and 20 per cent from Japan.

Justice ministers conference to be held on schedule

MOHAMMAD Hamad Al Roumi, the chairman of the Information and Public Relations Committee for Arab Justice Ministers, said the justice ministers conference would be held as scheduled from April 2 to 5 and that preparations were underway to ensure the success of the conference.

He said a committee had visited the Kuwait Conference Centre, the venue of the opening session, to check that equipment was ready to televise the event.

Al Roumi said the secretary-general of the Council of Arab Justice Ministers Mohammad Meeko would be the official spokesman for the conference and that an information committee would issue daily press releases summarising conference discussion.

He added that a budget had been established to cover the expenses of the conference in the most cost-efficient manner.

KPTC caravan for Makkah

A CARAVAN of luxury air-conditioned buses will leave next Monday for Saudi Arabia carrying pilgrims from Kuwait to Makkah for the performance of Omra.

The caravan has been organised by the Kuwait Public Transport Company at the request of many people who are intending to perform their Omra in Makkah on March 16 marking the holy occasion of Prophet Mohammad's journey to heaven.

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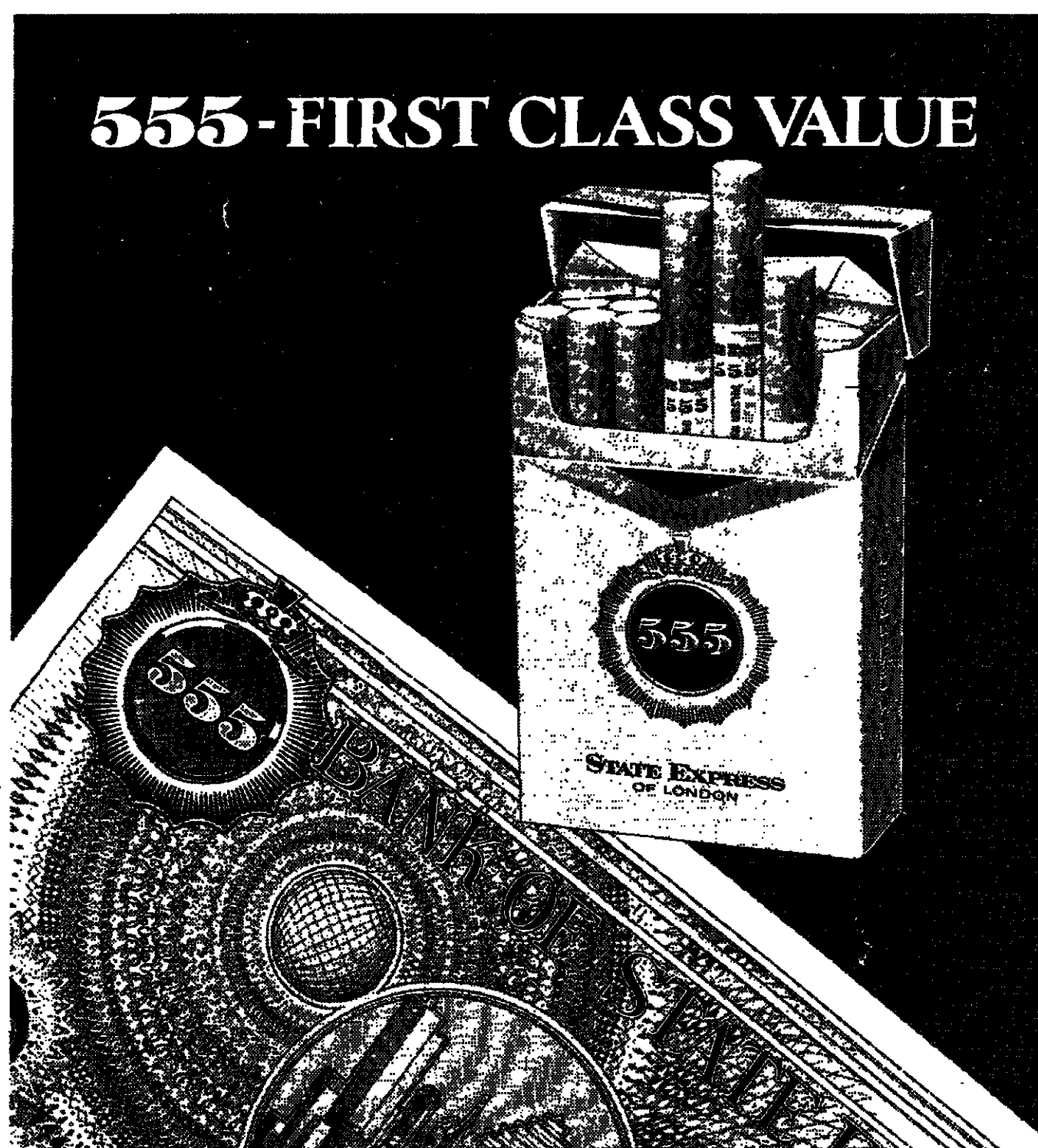
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We are alive and kicking: Herter

AUB seeks Gulf assistance

By Jadranka Porter

THE American University of Beirut, which has lived and operated for 12 years amidst the destruction unleashed by the civil war in Lebanon, has emerged with a renewed determination to succeed in a situation where survival itself is a major success. This determination and resilience were much in evidence during a visit to Kuwait by a delegation from the university aimed at boosting the AUB's regional importance.

"We are here to let people know that we are well, alive and kicking," said Frederic Herter, the AUB president based in New York. He was accompanied by Dr Ibrahim Salti the AUB deputy president with the office in Beirut. The delegation is on a Gulf tour which also took them to Bahrain, Qatar and the UAE. In Kuwait, the delegation, which met with the acting Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed and several ministers, is exploring whether some tangible connections can be established between the Kuwait University, the government and the AUB.

Mixture
The AUB has extensive joint programmes with institutes in Bahrain, Saudi Arabia and the UAE.

The story of the AUB is a peculiar mixture of suffering and triumph. "The fact that it is alive is nothing short of miracle," said Herter referring to perils of the civil war, Israeli occupation as well as the collapse of the Lebanese economy. The AUB staff has fought a heroic struggle to survive and to offer high standard services to the population of Beirut.

There are some deep wounds. Although the university has physically been untouched by fighting it has its share of kidnappings. Two of its staff, both Americans are still in captivity.

The US embargo on travel to Lebanon meant that the American faculty left Beirut and the university has difficulties recruiting on the international market despite the fact that there are lecturers anxious to join the AUB. The Western governments take a dim view of letting their citizens travel to Lebanon, said Herter. The AUB has currently a faculty of 400 and the standard of teaching is not as it used to be, Herter says.

Collapse

The major problem now facing the university is the collapse of the Lebanese economy rather than a lack of security. "Syria has provided effective protection in West Beirut. Last year there was a total absence of the breach of security in West Beirut," he said pointing out that economic hardships are the prime reason why the university has been losing senior faculty members. The university has been trying to meet the inflation rate but is still running behind its target.

On the other hand there are signs that the university is flourishing.

"It is the best and cheapest university we have," said Herter. He said that the university has support among all the factions in Beirut and the campus has been saved from any attacks.

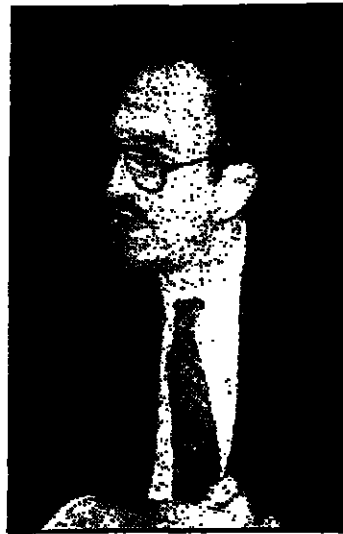
Hospital

Eight thousand students applied for admission for the current academic year while there were only 800 positions. The AUB currently has 5,500 students, 90 per cent of whom are Lebanese, a far cry from the situation in the 1970s when fifty per cent of students were foreigners.

Dr Ibrahim Salti said the University is committed to running the 400-bed hospital which gives excellent medical care. The hospital has treated 70,000 war casualties and has offered treatment to all irrespective of whether they can pay or not, said Salti.



Frederic Herter



Ibrahim Salti

The AUB has important joint programmes with the Gulf states. It has engineered the merger of Bahrain's Gulf Polytechnic and the University College of Bahrain which are now known as the University of Bahrain. The AUB experts are revising the operation of the health science school in the UAE and are assisting in the new medical school which is in the making. In Saudi Arabia the AUB is assisting with the colleges of agriculture and health sciences.

The AUB believes that the Gulf states can be of assistance by attracting the expatriate faculty, which the AUB can "borrow" from time to time. "Kuwait and the other Gulf states can get the prime use of these experts and we can have them on a block basis" said Herter.

Terrorism

The AUB is in dire need of funds and a decision has been made to raise the tuition fees. Student's tuition fees amount only to four per cent of the cost of education while in other institutes they cover 50 per cent. The AUB's troubles are not over. There is no way you can

completely guard against terrorism, says Herter. The fighting is still going on and the economy is in shambles. But Herter is looking at the institute's history in search for the clues to its survival. The 122-year-old university has experienced turbulent times before its latest crisis.

What helped it before and is helping it now is that it remained a "fearless independent" institute, said Herter.

Symbol

"The AUB does not represent the US government, it does not represent the Lebanese government. It is non-political persuasions and of all religious faiths. We are resisting factional divisions. The university stands as a symbol of unity," said Herter.

Looking into the future Herter can discern some hopeful developments. "People of Lebanon are desperately tired and they want a change. There is a sense of optimism that the restoration of the government authority and unity is in the offing" he said.

If it does happen the AUB and its staff will be heavily rewarded for holding out at the times when the threat to survival was so near.

KPC allocates KD 12m for training

MAHMOUD Al Yahya, the Assistant Managing Director of Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC) for Training Affairs, said KPC had allocated KD12 million for training and development of staff during the current fiscal year.

He added that all training activities at local companies are now handled by one central training department under the administration of KPC. He said that about 3,000 employees were expected to benefit from the courses during the present Five Year Plan.

About 7,000 Kuwaitis work in the oil sector, he said, forming 44 per cent of the total staff of 15,600.

Al Yahya explained that all manpower needs of the oil sector were covered by Kuwaiti employees in the last five years. He added that non-Kuwaitis were also appointed for specialised jobs requiring expertise. Kuwaitis replace non-Kuwaitis after training them for their jobs, he said.

Alawi for London

MUSCAT, March 7. (Kuna): The Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Youssef Bin Alawi Bin Abdullah left here last night for London, leading Oman's team to the Omani-British joint commission meeting to be held at the British capital on Thursday.

The commission's annual meeting is due to review the cooperation between the two countries in different fields and the means to expand it.

The minister of state for foreign affairs said before his departure that the meeting will give the two sides a chance to exchange views on political issues of mutual concern.

He praised the British programme for technical aid within which the British government participates in some important projects in the Sultanate.

Municipality selects 13 sites for bachelors

KUWAIT Municipality has designated 13 sites for bachelors' residence to accommodate about 200,838 bachelors, which according to 1985 census figures, reside in Kuwait.

In an interview with a Kuwaiti daily the director of the bachelors' residential project Abdul Wahab Abdul Razzak said the 13 sites were named after a study which was conducted to determine how bachelors could be relocated from residential areas to areas especially for them.

The study attempted to study the bachelor housing problem from various angles including population density, the building system, land allocations and social, economic and security

factors.

The study resulted in recommendations based on projected needs up to the year 2015, with a two-stage implementation.

Abdul Razzak said that alternative housing areas could be provided for about 36,000 workers between the years 1988 and 2000 and by 2015 housing could be secured for about 116,000.

Mosque

He explained that each building in the bachelor areas would consist of two storeys to accommodate a maximum of 100 workers, with two to four men per room. He said that each building would include all necessary facilities.

Each area will have a mosque to be built according to specifications

of the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs, he said adding that restaurants, supermarkets and meat shops would also be built in each area.

Abdul Razzak said the first stage includes designated areas in Amghara, South Sabahiya, Wafra, South Sabahiya, South Riqae, Mith Abdullah and Mahboulah.

The second stage, he said, would include areas in Sabbiya, Khairan, the First North Industrial Area, South Sabbiyah, South Jabra and West Mina Abdullah.

Each "bachelor city" located near model areas will have populations not to exceed 5,000 and cities located in remote areas will have a capacity of 40,000.



British parliamentarians in discussions with the Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs, Rashid Al Rashed.

Soviets may agree to arms embargo on Iran

(Continued from Page 1)

to the parliament for discussion. In Kuwait they met the acting Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed, the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Saoud Al Osaimi, and the Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs, Rashid Al Rashed. They also toured some oil installations.

Evidence

Speaking to the reporters before departure for Riyadh, Howell said that both Kuwaiti and British governments view the arms embargo against Iran as the most effective way of stopping the Iran-Iraq war.

"Further steps have to be taken to reinforce pressure

against Iran to desist. It is our impression that expectations that Iran will enter into negotiations are not very high," said Howell.

The parliamentarians confirmed the need to maintain the British naval presence in the Gulf saying that according to the evidence from the shipping interests in Britain the British-flagged and owned shipping still requires protection.

"This has been echoed in the views we have expressed today in Kuwait," said Howell.

Peter Shore, a senior Labour member of the delegation added: "This is rather like a cat and mouse game. If the minesweepers were to disappear the mines would appear. The protection should be provided while the

threat remains and that is the cross-party line."

Commenting on the latest UN initiative for the settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict Howell said: "Any moves are better than no moves."

He said the American idea, have not been well received but pointed out that there is a window of opportunity for progress now and that this should be taken and pursued.

Reiterating British support for a Middle East peace conference, he stressed that no single nation can solve the Arab-Israeli conflict.

"We want to see a constructive advance on the Arab-Israeli issues. These problems have to be solved in an international context," Howell said.

Genscher sends message to Sabah

ACTING Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed yesterday received a reply message from his West German counterpart Hans-Dietrich Genscher.

The message was delivered to Sheikh Sabah by the West German Ambassador to Kuwait, Dr Bernd Wulffen when the latter called on the Kuwaiti Foreign Minister in his office this morning.

Later Sheikh Sabah told newsmen that the message was a reply of an earlier message he sent to the West German Foreign Minister concerning bilateral relations and developments in the region.

He further said that he had sent the message to Genscher because West Germany is a member of the United Nations Security Council and current chairman of the Ministerial Council of the European Common Market.

In reply to a question from

newsmen, Sheikh Sabah said that he had also sent messages to the Foreign Ministers of the GCC Cooperation Council (GCC) states concerning the ratification of the treaty providing for the establishment of the Islamic Court of Justice as agreed upon by all the Muslim states at the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) summit held in Kuwait in January last year.

Sheikh Sabah explained that the messages to the GCC states have been sent in view of the forthcoming Islamic Foreign Ministers conference in Amman on March 21.

Iran
Meanwhile, Iran will participate in the Islamic states' Foreign Ministers Conference which will be held here, press reports said yesterday.

Jordanian daily 'Inform' said that Iran announced its agreement to participate in the meetings of the conference.

Bakri praises Kuwait's efforts for peace

CHAIRMAN of the International Fund for the Promotion of Culture Dr Bashir Al Bakri said here yesterday that the fund's meetings which opened on Sunday were held in Kuwait at the invitation of HH the Amir.

In an interview with Kuwait news agency Dr Bakri said these meetings are being held on Arab land for the first time, since previous meetings had taken place in Argentina, Greece, India and France.

He added that the fund's meetings in Kuwait are being held at the onset of the International Decade for the Development of Culture, called for by the United Nations, and is being sponsored by Unesco with the aim of stressing the cultural identity of individuals and national heritage of the peoples.

He added that it also aims at urging the shouldering of responsibilities toward international development, and pointed out that Kuwait has generously contributed to this objective through financial subsidies or other means.

Bank
Dr Bakri hailed Kuwait's position towards maintaining peace in the region and pointed out that the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) of which HH the Amir is president, is calling for peace in the area.

He also lauded Kuwait's efforts in support of the Palestinian popular uprising in the occupied territories and its backing to the people of South Africa and the rights of self-determination for peoples.

On the role of the fund, Bakri

said despite its limited resources, it is considered the premier cultural bank in the world that has so far financed 140 projects in 80 countries.

He added that the fund does not only cooperate with establishments, but also encourages individuals, particularly talented young men.

He further said that the statute of the fund ensures the independence and flexibility of its resources which do not exceed \$10 million.

Kuwaiti surrenders

(Continued from Page 1)

When he reached his home, he held 15 members of his family hostage and continued firing at securitymen and other people, hitting one child and critically injured one 20-year-old man.

Farraj's mother and two of his children, who had been in school, pleaded with him to give himself up but received no response.

While holding his family hostage, Farraj sent written messages through one of his daughters to police officers. One message praised the work of Kuwait's police force in protecting the country's security and one was signed "The Youth of the Mountain."

A nearby primary school for boys was closed and students sent home as a precautionary measure since Farraj was firing toward the school. Neighbours were also asked to leave the area to ensure their safety until Farraj surrendered.

Special centres for medical examinations

SPECIAL Health Centres have been designated for first-time applicants of residence permits for medical examinations required under new Kuwaiti residence law regulations.

Applicants from the Capital, Hawail and Jahra governorates are required to go to the Ports and Borders Health Section and those from the Ahmadi Governorate are required to go to the Fahaeel Health Centre.

The Director of Kuwait's Public Health Department Dr Rashid Al Uwaish said applicants should bring two photos, their passport, a government stamp for KD10 and all work papers to be submitted to the immigration department when coming for their medical examination.

A certificate, showing that the applicant is free of AIDS, leprosy, malaria, tuberculosis and filariasis, will be issued three days after the medical examination, Dr Uwaish said.

Dr Uwaish said the medical examination will follow guidelines established by the Arab Gulf Health Secretariat.

He called on citizens and expatriates to complete these examinations for their maids and expatriate workers as quickly as possible.

Jassar to attend opening of new mosque in Malaysia

KUALA LUMPUR, March 7. (Kuna): The Kuwaiti Minister of Awqaf Khalid Ahmad Al Jassar will be among several hundred foreign VIPs who will witness the opening of the new \$160 million Malaysian mosque in Selangor state town of Shah Alam, 25 km from here, on Friday.

Khalid, who is now in Cairo, is scheduled to arrive in the Malaysian capital on Wednesday, says an official of the Kuwaiti Embassy here today.

The minister is making a short visit to Malaysia at the invitation of the Sultan of Selangor.

Selangor is the most industrialised state in central Malaysia.

Communications officials meet

ABU DHABI, March 7. (Kuna): A GCC executive committee comprising undersecretaries at ministries concerned with communications, Post, transportation and telephone began its two-day meeting here today to set up the agenda for the 4th meeting of communication ministers.

Among other topics, the conference will tackle integration among the council states in the field of communications, as well as reviewing the standardisation of rates of communications services, in implementation of decisions by the GCC Supreme Council.

Shaheen exchanges views with Indian officials

NEW DELHI, Feb 7. (Kuna): Kuwait's visiting Foreign Minister Undersecretary Suleiman Majed Al Shaheen today exchanged views here with Indian Minister of State for External Affairs, Narsimhaiah, and other officials on bilateral matters and regional issues.

Majed Al Shaheen, who arrived here last evening from Bangkok, told Kuna that his meetings with the Indian officials were fruitful, "we have fruitful exchange of views on many bilateral matters and international problems."

The undersecretary held two rounds of talks with the senior official in the Indian Foreign Ministry A.B. Gokhale today. The wide-ranging talks covered the Iran-Iraq war, situation in the Gulf and the Palestinian uprising in the West Bank and Gaza Strip said an Indian official.

Shaheen, during his talks in Bangkok and Kuala Lumpur apprised the leaders of the two

countries of his country's views on various political problems in the Gulf region.

The Kuwaiti dignitary also delivered a letter, from acting Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed, to Narsimhaiah. The latter is addressed to Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, who also holds the portfolio of External Affairs Minister. The contents of the letter were not known.

The undersecretary is leaving for Islamabad tomorrow after concluding his visit to India, which he described as being of great importance. An official spokesman of the Indian External Affairs Ministry G. Parthasarathy told newsmen here that the Kuwaiti dignitary shared views with Indian officials on various political problems.

He also discussed with the Indian official the situation in Afghanistan. India briefed him about his stance on the Afghan problem.

US to name new envoy to Israel

ABU DHABI, March 7. (Kuna): The US Secretary of State George Shultz has decided to change the US Ambassador to Israel Thomas Pickering in response to Israeli and Jewish American pressure, press reports here said today.

Quoting sources of the US State Department, Al Itihad newspaper said Pickering will be replaced by William Braun next summer as a result of pressure from Washington for the past three years.

According to the sources, Israel and the Zionist lobby in Washington accused Pickering of exposing the US-Israeli relations to "unjustifiable crises."

The Israeli government had criticised Pickering's demand that Israeli authorities provide good treatment for Americans of

Palestinian origin, who visit the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The US Ambassador was also criticised by the Israeli authorities for his interference in preventing the deportation of Dr Mubarak Awad, an American of Palestinian origin and an advocate of non-violence.

Tunisian president to visit S. Arabia

RIYADH, March 7. (Zine): Tunisian President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali will pay a four-day visit to Saudi Arabia from Tuesday, an official statement said.

The statement, carried by the Saudi Press Agency, said the visit was at the invitation of King Fahd, but gave no further details.

National Week for Handicapped

KUWAIT'S private sector, led by the Gulf Bank, will hold the third National Week for the Handicapped from March 7. said the general secretary of the organising committee Abdul Aziz Balool.

Balool, who is from the Gulf Bank's public relations department, said the week will be held under the patronage of HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Sa'ad Al Abdullah Al Salem Al Sabah.

Among the weeklong activities are a charity bazaar, folklore activities, sports, concerts and a series of other cultural shows. Popular singers from the Gulf will participate in the concerts.

The Programme Committee has formed a special organising committee to oversee the

activities comprising representatives of various institutions involved with the care for handicapped. The Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour is taking an active part in preparing the programme.

Keen

The private sector is keen to take part in social welfare activities and has been contributing towards the integration of the handicapped in the society.

The week is being held by the Gulf Bank in cooperation with Kuwait Airways Corporation, Kuwait Hotels Company, W.J. Towells Company and Abdulaziz Al Ali Al Mutawa Company.

Further details about the week will be announced in the media - television, radio and newspapers.



Abdul Aziz Balool announced the start of the National Week for the Handicapped.

Austrian minister arrives

AUSTRIAN Deputy Foreign Minister Dr Thomas Klestil arrived yesterday on an official visit to Kuwait after concluding similar visits to Qatar and Bahrain.

Dr Klestil who was received at the Kuwait international airport by Kuwait's acting Undersecretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Faisal Al Saleh Al Motawa and other officials, is also due to visit Saudi Arabia, and Oman.

On his arrival at the airport, Dr Klestil told newsmen that the main purpose of his tour of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states was to demonstrate the high priority and importance his government attached to the relations with the Arab Gulf states in general and the Arab Gulf states in particular.

For quite some time no Austrian official had visited the Arabian Gulf region and this was the reason his government decided to send him to carry the greetings of his government and people to this region, he added.

Rqobah receives envoys

KUWAITI Minister of Electricity and Water, Dr Hmoud Al Rqobah yesterday received ambassadors of Sweden, Jordan, the US, East Germany and Tunisia here.

During the meetings, the ambassadors congratulated Al Rqobah for assuming the portfolio of the Ministry of Electricity and Water and exchanged cordial talks.

Kuwait denounces apartheid

UNITED NATIONS, March 7. (Kuna): Kuwait denounced today South Africa's "inhuman methods" and against peaceful clergyman and national organisations opposed to the apartheid system.

Speaking on behalf of the Islamic states, Kuwaiti Ambassador Mohammad A. Abulhasan said the measures adopted on February 24 "reflects the level of contempt by that obnoxious regime which flouts all human rights as enshrined by international laws and instruments."

The current debate, which began Thursday, was requested last week by Sierra Leone as chairman of the African group, and Zambia.

He said the move "a breach of all principles and standards upon which the world organisation and its charter are based. It is yet another link in a series of acts of oppression, brutality and murder" which he said have culminated in a state of ethnic extermination imposed in the summer of 1985.

Abulhasan said it was South Africa's aim to block a peaceful change in the continent and to liquidate all political activists even in the neighbourly states.

"Members of the Organisation of Islamic Countries join a world public opinion in its strong condemnation of the perstator of the racist regime in its reckless pursuit of the racist policy in order to tighten its control on the black majority," Abulhasan said.

Kfas prize distribution

THE Kuwait Foundation for Advancement of Science (Kfas) will hold its annual celebration for the distribution of prizes 115 students and graduates Kuwait University, Institute of Public Authority for Applied Education and Training at academic year 1986-1987 on Saturday, March 12.

Kfas will honour the students achievements of these studies based on the educational level

Jagjit Singh looks up and up ...

By Fathima Ahmed

INDIAN ghazal singer Jagjit Singh's career graph has been steadily rising since the early 1970s. For the singer it is yet to "peak".

The main is a realist. "A graph can't always go up and up. It goes up and then declines. No one can stay on top forever." This outlook seems to drive the man to score enough points to remain on top for a longer time than his competitors.

Jagjit's strategy is clear. Well aware of the "limited audience for classical music" he experimented, blended and created music that appeals to the man on the street. It paid rich dividends. His first record "The Unforgettables" became the largest selling disc as Jagjit puts it: "It made history in the field of non-film music."

System

Time was also on his side. Jagjit Singh came on the scene when the quality of film music, the most popular in India, was on the decline. "I filled a vacuum," he says with a wistful look in his eyes.

Jagjit believes in "doing his job". He has done his job well. He has also cashed in on the fruits of the system in which he operates and took advantage of every opportunity that



Jagjit Singh: creative

came his way. His rise was gradual and like a good planner he saw the need for catering to the music-starved multitudes. Demand grew. But the quality declined. Not of Jagjit's music, though. Many ghazal singers came on the scene cashing in on the renaissance of the ghazal. Jagjit's pragmatic appraisal of the trend is: "when the demand is high, quality inevitably declines. The quality of ghazal music also went down." And he blames the listeners for

"not objecting" to the lack of rhythm and off-key music generated by the new generation of singers.

"No one objects to the deterioration in the quality of ghazal singing," he moans.

Will the quality improve? "Yes, it could. Urdu literary societies must try to uplift the quality of verse and music," he stresses.

When Jagjit is on the stage he caters to "every whim of the men and women in the

audience, trying to maintain and retain audience rapport." When he is recording, Jagjit is his "own master." The singer is tired of the "present trend of demand for sharaab (wine) and shabab (women) type of music." In other words, lewd music becomes popular. There are certain ghazals that cannot be sung at a concert attended by families, he says. And at concerts where lascivious music is played it "becomes impossible to maintain discipline" he adds.

Muscle

Jagjit Singh steers, or at least tries to, clear of such type of music. He picks and chooses the verse of poets — old and new — and composes "soft, soothing music." Though reluctant to name his favourite contemporary poets, he rattles off the names of Qatil Shifai, Muzaffar Warsi and Rida Fadi as some of the men who write for him.

His music is gentle and calm perhaps because the composer in him dislikes "shrill notes and shouting." So far, he has managed to avoid singing "loud music," a reference to pop and disco sounds.

Though he encourages new, upcoming talent, Jagjit seems to be way of the new generation of ghazal singers.

"They don't want to learn. They seek quick fame and want

to make a fast buck. They'll fade as quickly as they come," he prophesies.

A versatile composer and a trained musician, Jagjit feels it is "very important to study classical music." He seems to be a little overawed by all the attention he is getting and doesn't believe he is "very ambitious" and says he goes through phases of creativity and emptiness.

Phase

"At the moment I am going through a blank phase. I am contemplating, experimenting and trying out sounds," he says.

His career, though, is not so blank. He is currently composing music for a 16 part TV serial on the life of the noted Urdu poet Mirza Ghalib. Naseeruddin Shah plays the title role in the serial, which will be ready for release by May this year. Jagjit is the "voice of Ghalib." In between this assignment, he is also composing music for films ("composing film music is a side business"). And when he has got his act together Jagjit will record a video "to interpret the ghazal."

The ghazal singer admits fame, wealth and prosperity have robbed him of "some of my creativity." And as an afterthought he adds: "Money is necessary to bring my type of music to the people."

Musical link-up in Manama

A MUSICAL link-up brings together singers from Kuwait, Bahrain and the UK at a concert due to be held later this month in Manama.

Sixteen members of the Kuwait Singers group will participate in the concert, due on March 30, along with the Manama Singers and the Avon County Symphonic Wind Band.

The Wind Band has presented highly successful concerts in the Gulf in 1981 and 1984. The group brings together woodwind, brass and percussion players from the country of Avon, UK. They play a selection of music from Broadway shows, jazz, pop, the classics, Marches and Symphonic Wind Band Show Pieces.

Music

More than 186 musicians will take part in the one-day concert, which will be held at the Regency Intercontinental. The Kuwait Singers will present three of the eleven pieces at the Manama concert.

The Kuwait Singers' Musical Director Ian Robertson and the members of the group are currently rehearsing twice weekly for the show.

They will perform Vaughan Williams' "O Holy Amiable," Charles Ives' "Circus Band" and Elgar's Pomp and Circumstance March, some of the highlights of the show. Together the singers from the three countries will present music by Ron Nelson, Robert Russell Bennett, Warren Benson, Norred, Percy Grainger, Gordon Jacob, Stephen Sondheim and Clifton Williams.

The concert, says Robertson, will be a blend of the classical and popular sounds, catering to a wide audience. The format is very much like the Kuwait Singers' concerts. They are now trying to get a headstart to enable them to organise Gulf concerts in coordination with similar groups in the Gulf.



Ian Robertson: musical link-up

Apart from Bahrain, choral groups perform in Saudi Arabia and other Gulf states. Robertson's dream is to start the tradition of a "Weekend Choir Festival" for the Gulf-based group.

"We'll get some experience in Manama, and then, hopefully try to get Gulf concerts off the ground," he said. The idea is still germinating and when it takes shape, such concerts are planned to be held in Manama as it is relatively easy to get entry visas for Bahrain.

Barriers

This month's concert has been dubbed as a musical event that "breaks down all barriers of politics, race and creed."

In Kuwait, the 42-strong Singers have presented highly successful concerts. Its members are multinational, including Arab, and are linked by a common interest in music. The group was formed in 1986 by Ian Robertson and Oliver Lister, who recently left Kuwait.

The members of the group who are going to Bahrain are: Ian Robertson, co-musical director Gerry Wood, Ivana Belohorska, Ann Obidini-Nikolaou, Ulrike Murz, Ulrike Nikolaou, Juergen Eikholt, Zana Pakenham Keady, Dick Wiggins, Marie Wiggins, Florence David, Barbara Watson, Marina Renck, Belino Alfonso, Mike Mendenhall and Laurie Hill.

FA



Pat and Cosby (right): the man who comes to dinner

The dinner is on Bill Cosby

By Frank Durham

DINNER is usually on comedian Bill Cosby when he tries to woo his estranged wife with romantic meals. Reconciliation definitely isn't the menu, and Bill ends up wearing the main course.

The disastrous dinners happen in superstar Cosby's latest movie, Leonard: Part VI, to be released in Britain in April. The girl with the sensational forehead dinner-service is Pat Colbert, otherwise known as Dora Mae, the slinky, immaculately-mannered hostess of the Oil Barons' Club on the Dallas TV soap.

And she is more used to the chink of fine china, crystal glass and silver cutlery as the likes of J.R. Ewing, Cliff Barnes and Bobby Ewing wheel and deal.

In the film, Pat plays the reluctant wife, whom Cosby has been trying to win back

Comedian Cosby tries desperately to get closer to his estranged wife in his latest movie, Leonard: Part VI. And she makes sure that the dinner's on him.

seven desperate years. She describes the comedy as "equal parts James Bond, Alice in Wonderland and It Happened One Night."

Pat says: "It's fun to shoot with Bill. He does all his James Bond heroics without any help from me. Our scenes together are closer to those played by Clark Gable and Claudette Colbert. Bill Cosby can be very romantic, you know."

The Cosby movie is Pat's biggest break so far. She was discovered while appearing in a

TV commercial for Harvey's Bristol Creme sherry.

It was hard to ignore her sizzling performance as she draped herself across a sofa wearing a \$10,000 designer dress and a million dollars' worth of Tiffany diamonds.

Pat's first movie part was as Shelley Winters' lover in Blake Edwards' S.O.B. She has also had soapy parts in Knots Landing and Flamingo Road.

Pat, mother of 15-year-old Michael, is most at home in that elite Dallas club, where she is spending her fifth season. But she resents being the only black regular member of the cast.

After all, Pat points out, there are hundreds of blacks as rich or richer than the Ewing clan. Like Bill Cosby, the man who wished he hadn't come to dinner.

Bill Cosby appears on the TV comedy currently being aired on KTV 2 on Thursdays.

WHAT'S ON

THEATRE

Rock 'n' Romance
Kuwait Players present Rock 'n' Romance, a rock show with a romantic touch, directed by June Stevenson and Phil Thomas, featuring music by Eric Clapton, Dire Straits, Elton John, Chopin and others. It will be held at the Regency Palace Hotel at 8 pm on March 20, 21, 22, 23 and at 3 pm and 8 pm on March 24. For details call 5624175, after 2 pm, or 5745838.

ACT's "An Evening of Absurdity" 8 pm nightly, until Thursday, at the Mousetrap Theatre, New English School. The evening consists of two absurdly comic one-act plays. The Bald Soprano by Eugene Ionesco and The American Dream by Edward Albee. For reservations ring 5639204; 5620332; 5725071.

Kuwait Little Theatre
KLT will perform the Vicar of Wakefield, an amusing tale by Oliver Goldsmith. Gala opening on March 14 at 7.30 pm. Repeat performances on March 15, 16 and 17 at 8.15 pm. For reservations ring 3983724.

SOCIAL

Desert BBQ
Kuwait Players will hold a Desert BBQ on Friday, March 11, catered by a leading hotel. Organised games for children. Newcomers particularly welcome. Tel: 5330934; 5613465.

Bangladesh Association
The Association will publish a souvenir to mark the Independence and National Day of Bangladesh. Contributors can submit articles to an officer of the association. Artists can contact the cultural secretary. A cultural programme will be held on March 31, 6.30 pm, at the Sharq Cooperative Society Auditorium.

Bangladesh Week
S.M.N. Parishad will organise Bangladesh Week. To participate contact Dr Amanullah — 5317690; Tazul Islam — 4879455; Samsul Alam — 5312700 ext 2616.

Kuwait Natural History Group

The next meeting of the group will be held on Tuesday, March 8, at the Gulf English School Salwa. An illustrated talk on "Super Conductors in Kuwait" will be given by Mr Qazi. For details phone Eric Shaw — 3718417.

Lunchen Party
Friends of Great Ormond Street Hospital Lunch will be held on March 17, 1.30 pm, at Messilah Beach Hotel. For Reservations contact 4831339; 5636675.

Kuwait Irish Society
St. Patrick's Day celebration on March 17 at the Holiday Inn Hotel. If interested contact — 5621701/5622701, 8 am to 2 pm or 5624175 after 2 pm.

Contact
The next meeting of the ladies information group, Contact, will be held on Saturday, March 19, at 10 am at the SAS Hotel. Newcomers to Kuwait are particularly welcome. For details phone 3949807; 4874513; 5383999.

Photography Contest
Kapilku has extended the deadline to March 31 for submitting entries for the photography contest on "Portrait of Filipinos in Kuwait." The KPK I.D. number must be mentioned on all entries. For details phone 4877793.

HOTELS

At the Sheraton
Yum Yum America: flavourful traditional American dishes such as steaks, Alaskan king

crab, oysters, chicken Maryland and a selection of desserts including pumpkin pie are offered in the Hunt Room, Coffee Shop and Gourmet Shop.

At the Meridien
Versailles Restaurant features fresh lobster promotion, until March 17. La Brasserie offers daily lunch and dinner. Extensive buffet and a la carte service.

At the Hilton
La Palma, all-day dining restaurant open from 6.30 am, features Oriental, Continental and international cuisine and an array of sweets and desserts. Full American buffet breakfast offered from 6.30 am to 11 am. A la carte also available.

At the SAS
The Peacock Room offers Chinese dining from Peking to Szechuan daily for lunch and dinner, except Saturdays. Al Boom features Oriental and Western cuisine for dinner, nightly, and lunch and dinner on weekends.

SPORTS

Swimming Classes
Swimming classes for children, beginners, improvers and advanced levels will be held at the Kuwait Hilton Hotel. For details contact the hotel's recreation manager.

German Sports

Starmatch
The latest weekly German sports round-up shown on video every Tuesday at 7.30 pm at the Ramada Al Salam Hotel. Free entry. For details contact Bernhard Ilming — 4835344.

Inter-School Knockout '88

Inter-school Knockout '88 will take place at the Holiday Inn Hotel. Games featuring students and teachers will be held for three nights. For details contact the Holiday Inn hotel.

Cricket Match

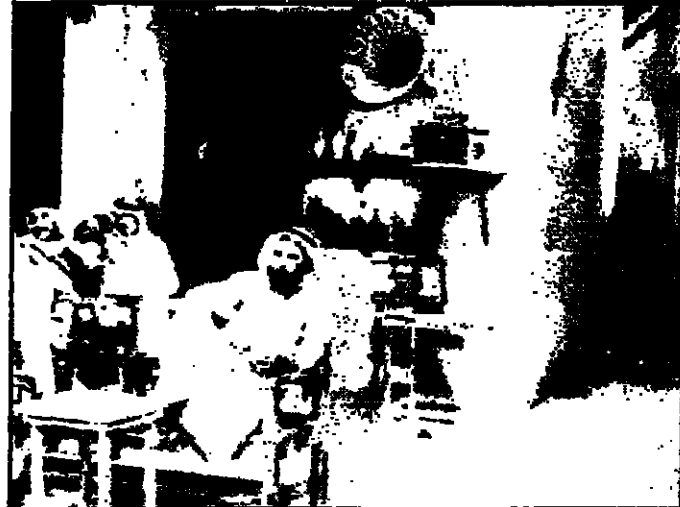
The BA Speedbird Trophy cricket match between teams representing Great Britain and Pakistan will take place at the KOC, Ahmadi, New Ground on March 15. Play commences at 9.30 am. All are welcome.

Events welcomes items for its What's On column. They can be telefaxed or phoned to 4813566, Ext 285 between 1000 and 1800 hours daily, except Thursdays. Pictures will also be considered for publication. The sooner the item is submitted, the better its chance for publication.

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

- 2.15 Holy Quran
- 2.30 World News via Satellite
- 3.30 Ibtal Al Mu'laeb: cartoon serial
- 4.00 News Summary
- 4.05 World News via satellite
- 4.15 Ghadab Al Sahara: new daily serial, featuring Sahar Rami, Abdul Rahman Al Rish, Tahath Hamdi.
- 5.15 Al Manahat: children's serial, starring Ahmad Qawadri, Tayseer Attiya
- 5.45 You and Your Health: local programme, hosted by Dr Rashed Al Owaish.
- 6.30 News Summary
- 6.55 Afaq Al Fann: presented by Abdul Rasool Salman.
- 7.25 Animal World: "In the Indian Ocean."
- 8.00 Hadith Al Usbooh: religious talk by Sheikh Ali Al Jassar.
- 8.15 Good Evening and Local News
- 9.00 News in Arabic
- 9.50 Pages from the History of Kuwait: prepared and presented by Saif Marzouk Al Shamlan.



Saif Marzouk Al Shamlan presents Pages from the History of Kuwait, at 9.50 pm on KTV 1

KTV 2

- 2.30 Opening and Holy Quran.
- 2.38 Cartoons.
- 2.46 Rainbow Brite.
- 3.08 Report on Gulf Championships.
- 3.55 Football: Qatar vs UAE.
- 5.55 Iraq vs Kuwait.
- 8.00 News in English.
- 8.40 You and the Law: a local programme.
- 8.50 Heart of the City: "Rock and Rumble." A policeman kills a member of a notorious gang.
- 9.40 Omni: Peter Ustinov presents this half-hour programme on topical events.
- 10.00 Tracey Ullman Show: a 30-minute comedy featuring short sketches, including Meg's Shower.
- 10.30 Feature Film: "Like Father and Son." A negro orphan is rescued by a white man, who helps the child find his family.
- 12.00 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown.

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

RADIO PROGRAMMES

English

MORNING

- 08.00 Opening
- 08.02 Songs and Music
- 08.05 Thoughts in Islam
- 08.20 Songs and Music
- 08.30 NEWS
- 08.40 Songs and Music
- 08.45 Daily Programme
- 08.50 Songs and Music
- 09.30 They Sold A Million
- 10.00 Our Press Today
- 10.05 Songs and Music
- 11.00 News
- 13.30 NEWS on FM Service

EVENING

- 21.00 Opening
- 21.02 In The Latin Mood
- 21.30 NEWS
- 21.45 Point of View
- 21.55 Songs and Music
- 22.00 Religious Programme
- 22.15 In The Groove
- 22.45 Daily Programme
- 23.00 Hit Special
- 23.30 Jazz in Action
- 24.00 Closedown

BBC World Services

- 0000 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 Radio Newswel
- 30 Best on Record.
- 0100 News Summary followed by Outlook
- 30 Short Story
- 45 The Unclaimed Promise (ex 29th)
- 0200 World News
- 09 Commentary
- 15 Network UK
- 0300 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 The World Today
- 30 John Peel

- 4400 Newswel
- 30 Virtuoso
- 45 Reflections
- 45 Financial News
- 0500 World News
- 09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
- 30 New Ideas
- 45 Turning Over New Leaves (ex 29th The Wondrous Cross contd.)
- 45 The World Today
- 0600 Newswel
- 30 Rock Salad
- 0700 World News
- 09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
- 30 The Unclaimed Promise (ex 29th)
- 45 Network UK
- 0800 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 Health Matters (ex 29th Tech Talk)
- 30 Music on Record
- 0900 World News
- 09 British Press Review
- 15 The World Today
- 30 Financial News followed by Sports Roundup
- 45 Capriccio (ex 29th The Seven Ages of Man)
- 1000 News Summary followed by Discovery
- 30 Sports International
- 1100 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 Waveguide (ex 29th The Wondrous Cross contd.)
- 30 Citizens
- 1200 Radio Newswel
- 15 Multitrack 1: Top 20
- 45 Sports Roundup
- 1300 World News
- 09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
- 30 Network UK
- 45 Recording of the Week
- 1400 Outlook, opening with 5-minute News
- 45 Virtuoso
- 1500 Radio Newswel
- 15 A Jolly Good Show

Urdu

- 1900 Opening
- 1910 Behterem Qaul
- 1920 News
- 1935 Press Report
- 1940 Radio Club
- 2000 News
- 2015 Aaj Ka Intikhab
- 2030 Learning Arabic
- 2040 Jahan Numa
- 2100 Closedown

FM Services

- 0800 Easy Listening
- 0830 News
- 0840 Easy Listening
- 1000 Songs and Music
- 1330 News
- 1340 Easy Listening
- 1400 Classical Music
- 1600 Easy Listening
- 1700 Italian Hour
- 1800 Pops
- 2130 Pops
- 2200 Indian Classical Hour
- 2300 Easy Listening
- 2400 Instrumental Listening

NIGHT CHEMIST

Krwait
Al Ghanem Pharmacy
nr. Carlton, Fahd Al Salem St.
Al Kawther Pharmacy
Abdullah Al Mubarak St.

Hawalli and Nagra
Al Hawalli Pharmacy
Tunis St.

Salmiya and Rumaitiya
Al Rashed Pharmacy
Amman St.

Fahadheel and Ahmadi
Al Badiya Pharmacy
Mohammad Jassin Dabbous Bldg., Dabbous St., Fheel

Jleeb Al Shiyoohk
Al Salamah Pharmacy
Block 3, Main St.

Jahra
Al Zahra Pharmacy
New Souk

CINEMA TODAY

Al Andalus
Al Marat Waj Kanoon (Arabic)
Starring: Shirhan, Farouk Fishawi, Majeda

Al Salmiya
Jumping Jack Flash
Starring: Whoopi Goldberg

Al Hamra
The Highest Honour
Starring: John Howard

Al Rajai
Yahub Marratani (Arabic)
Starring: Mahmood Abdul Aziz, Shalira, Laila Alwi, Hala Sudqi, Waheed Saif

Al Firdous
Dilruba Tangewali (Hindi)
Starring: Hemant Birje, Sriprada Krishna, Deva, Pran

Fahadheel Open-Air
Namak Halal (Hindi)
Starring: Amitabh Bachchan, Shashi Kapoor

Al Fahadheel
Running Scared
Al Jahra
Sukhphako (Bengali)
Granada

Sarvakalasa (Malayalam)
Sulabikhat
Tarzan and His Mate

Al Jleeb
Johnny (Bengali)
Ahmadi Drive-In

Al Mal'oub (Arabic)
Starring: Mahmood Yassin, Imaan

PRAYERS

Fajr	4.46 am
Zuhr	11.59
Asr	3.21 pm
Maghreb	5.53
Isha	7.09

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

WE have 40 million reasons for failure, but not a single excuse — Rudyard Kipling, English writer (1865-1936).

Afghan war brought US, Pakistan closer

Soviet pullout could loosen ties

By Sheila Tefft

ISLAMABAD: Pakistanis are increasingly wondering whether close links with the United States, forged by the Afghanistan war, will survive in times of peace.

Many analysts predict that the complex web of ties spun since the 1979 Soviet invasion of Afghanistan will loosen and begin to unravel with the growing likelihood of a Soviet pullout.

"Pakistan and American relations have been propped up by Afghanistan," says Mushahid Hussain, an Islamabad commentator and frequent critic of Pakistan's government. In Hussain's eyes: "It is not an enduring relationship."

Foreign observers and Pakistani analysts expect an Afghan settlement to give impetus to South Asia's shifting order, and trigger new superpower jockeying on the subcontinent.

Worry
A source of concern here is the possibility that the US might reduce military aid, which rose dramatically in response to the perceived Soviet threat. Such a move would lower tensions between the US and Pakistan's arch rival, India, foreign observers say.

At the same time, Pakistani analysts add, it could clear the way for better ties to Moscow. "Pakistan can't afford to be isolated in a region where Iran, China, and India all are enjoying better relations with the Soviets," says Shazia Pirzada, a Soviet specialist at Islamabad's Institute of Strategic Studies.

But officials worry that US concerns about Pakistan's nuclear programme, overshadowed by the Afghan conflict, will resurface. Likewise, anti-US fervour, which has been dampened by mutual opposition to the Soviets, could revive.

Pakistanis appear to feel increasingly caught in the superpowers' diplomatic crossfire. "There is the feeling of why should we pay for the sins of the Soviets and the ambitions of the Americans," says Hussain. The country shelters more than three million Afghan refugees and is the conduit for foreign aid to Afghan guerrillas fighting the Soviet-backed Kabul regime.

Still, there are pressures for maintaining strong US-Pakistan ties. The recent approval of a \$4.2 billion aid package, despite controversy and budget constraints, shows the South Asian nation has more friends in the US Congress than some thought, observers here say.

In addition, American officials appear to recognise Pakistan's significance as a friendly force. "There is a growing appreciation in Washington that Pakistan has an importance that doesn't have anything to do with Afghanistan," says a senior diplomat in the Pakistani capital. "They are close friends in a region where the United States doesn't have a lot of friends."

US officials have glowingly endorsed the country's tentative moves toward democracy by

Pakistan's President Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq in recent years. But many critics say the general, who took power in a 1977 coup, would not have survived as long as he has without American backing.

Aid
But it is not only the country's powerful military that will continue to favour sophisticated Western military equipment and ties. Many civilians are proud of the military aid which they feel has given Pakistan a measure of parity with India. Like emblems of national pride, pictures of US F-16 fighter aircraft adorn the sides of trucks and buses throughout the country.

"We may not always like the Americans," says one businessman, "but with their help we've made the Indians nervous."

But mention of the US still brings fire to the eyes of militant Muslims. There are fears that, in the negotiations over a new government in Afghanistan, the US will push for more moderate forces over Islamic leaders. Some Pakistanis suspect the US will agree to a Soviet pullout and end aid to the Afghan guerrillas to further East-West relations, leaving Pakistan and Afghanistan to suffer from the resulting chaos.

Deprive
"The Americans supported the Islamic Afghan resistance because they had to," says Raja Aziz, an analyst at the Institute of Policy Studies in Islamabad. "But America does not want to see an Islamic Afghanistan. They want to deprive the Afghans of the fruits of the struggle."

Eriction over Pakistan's nuclear ambitions also could flare once Afghanistan is settled. Despite growing evidence that Pakistan is using stolen Western technology to build a nuclear weapons programme, the US Congress has repeatedly set aside its worries to endorse new aid.

But if the war ends, so could American patience. Indian officials, who charge that Pakistan is developing nuclear weapons, say the US will show its true colours on nuclear proliferation and arming Pakistan when the Afghanistan war ends.

"The United States will have more influence on Pakistan than before," says an Indian diplomat. "Continuing economic aid to Pakistan is not the problem. The problem is the military aid, and especially the type of military aid." However, India itself exploded a nuclear device in 1974 and is suspected of already having a weapons development programme in place.

US officials are still peeved by India's refusal to join United Nations' condemnations of the Soviet role in Afghanistan. But in recent years, Washington has tried to counter Moscow's role as ally and arms supplier to India. The US is now boosting Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's modernisation plans by supplying Western technology, including military knowhow.

The Christian Science Monitor News Service

A treacherous path ahead

Nato summit ignored the problems

By Robert Burns

BRUSSELS, Belgium, (AP): US and its North Atlantic allies have reaffirmed their 39-year-old partnership and celebrated its past success. The future for Nato, however, looks cluttered with problems.

At the conclusion last week of their first summit meeting in six years, leaders of the 16 allied nations reaffirmed the goals and principles of the North Atlantic treaty signed in April 1949 to protect Western democracies from a perceived military threat from the Soviet Union.

They said the military aim of the alliance was to prevent war, the top political goal, to preserve freedom and achieve a just order in Europe.

US President Ronald Reagan and the leaders of Canada and 14 West European countries gave themselves a happy slap on the back for having persuaded the

Soviet Union to eliminate all intermediate-range nuclear missiles. They called the INF Treaty, signed last December, a milestone.

They also declared that Nato's policy of maintaining a full range of nuclear weapons had kept the peace in Europe for nearly four decades. They said nuclear arms, and US troops, must remain in Europe.

Success

The public message of the Brussels summit was that Nato has been a success. What's less clear is how the alliance will fare in the future.

Among the chief problems, most of which were largely ignored at the summit:

● How to adjust the trans-Atlantic partnership to account for the waning economic predominance of the United States and meet Washington's demand that the European Nato

members do more for the collective defence.

The catch-phrase is "burden sharing." Many Americans think they bear too much of it. Europeans generally agree they should pay more, but their governments are restricted by two things: the traditional European priority for social spending and persistent weak growth of their economies.

● Whether to extend the common defence framework beyond the North Atlantic area to regions where the West's security interests appear more directly and immediately threatened, such as the Gulf.

The Reagan administration has said recently that Nato must look beyond its own backyard to confront security challenges in other parts of the world. The Europeans, however, fear this could weaken their domestic defences and erode public support for the Western alliance.

● How to make the European countries work more closely together on defence and security issues without undercutting the US role in Nato. This effort to "strengthen the European pillar" of the alliance has been pursued since the early 1960s, but it now is evolving in a way that, paradoxically, troubles even some Europeans.

Concern

France and West Germany in January established a joint military brigade. Some, including Britain and Italy, have expressed concern that the Bonn-Paris axis could be the start of a European defence outside Nato.

The Brussels summit declaration made a veiled reference to this in a passage that said an increasingly united Europe was vital to North American security. "We therefore welcome recent efforts to reinforce the European pillar of the alliance, intended to

strengthen the trans-Atlantic partnership and alliance security as a whole," the declaration said.

Efforts to increase European defence cooperation are expected to speed up, while continuing to raise troubling questions about the US role.

"Europe can never be independent; we have accepted the nuclear protection of the United States," said Jaap de Hoop Scheffer, the Netherlands' Ambassador to Nato headquarters, in a recent interview. "There is no question of Europe having its own nuclear deterrent."

Questions

There are, however, many questions about the future of US nuclear weapons in Europe, none of which were answered at the Brussels summit.

The most troubling are:
● Whether to accept a Soviet invitation to negotiate cuts in missiles and other nuclear

weapons of very short range. These weapons, with ranges below 500 kilometres (310 miles) are not affected by the INF Treaty.

West Germans on both ends of the political spectrum want either to scrap these weapons altogether or at least get the Soviets to drastically reduce theirs. Most of these weapons on Nato's side are based in Germany. Other Nato members fear such negotiations, even if they forced the Soviets to make bigger cuts than Nato, would create an irreversible momentum toward the elimination of all atomic arms in Europe.

● Whether and when to modernise the short-range weapons. A key aspect of this debate involves the Lance nuclear missile, which Nato says will be obsolete by the mid-1990s. It will be the only land-based nuclear missile remaining in Europe once the INF Treaty is implemented.

Southern route to White House rocky for Gore

By Michael Posner

RICHMOND, Va., (Reuters): Tennessee Senator Albert Gore, seeking to become the youngest American president, pictured the southern-dominated "Super Tuesday" primary today as his ticket to the presidency.

But with the 20-state vote going on opinion polls show Gore, 39, running third or fourth in the six-man Democratic race and the balloting he once thought would launch his White House quest seems at least as likely to bury it.

On this biggest primary day of this year, voters will elect 1,307 delegates, nearly 63 per cent of the 2,082 delegates needed to win the Democratic presidential nomination at the national convention in August.

Fourteen southern border states, including Gore's native Tennessee, are among those that will pick Democratic delegates next week. The senator once thought regional pride would give him the upper hand.

Blank
But his bid has been hurt by weak showings in Iowa and New Hampshire, the two early votes that have traditionally won-

owed the candidate field, and an inability to convey a sense of where he would take the country.

"Gore is a little blank," says Mississippi Democratic Party chairman Ed Cole. "People like him, but he does not inspire."

In fact, Gore's wife "Tipper" may be better known than he is. Mrs Gore, author of a book titled

"Raising PG kids in an x-rated society," came to prominence by leading a crusade against obscene rock music lyrics.

Gore, a self-described "raging moderate," had hoped to portray himself as the conservative in a field of liberals. His early strategy was to show himself as the one Democrat willing to stand up for American interests abroad.

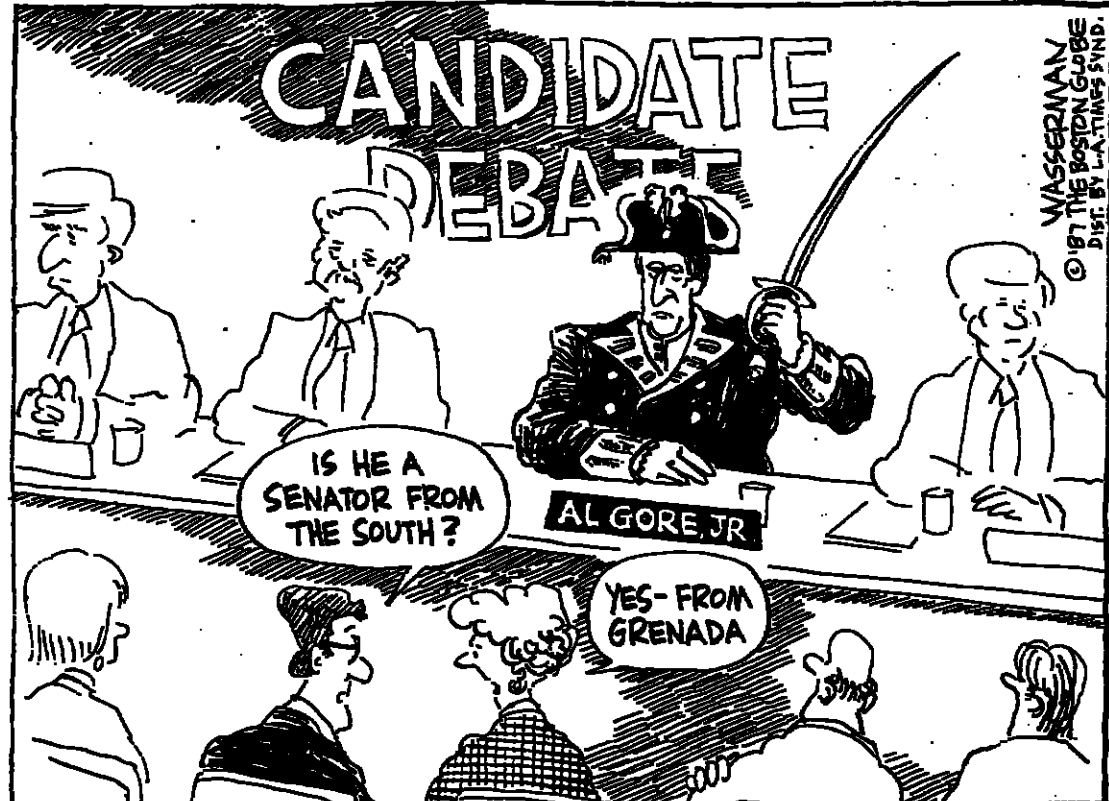
The tough talk was expected to appeal to conservative southern Democrats who have voted heavily for Republican presidential candidates in recent years because they thought the Democratic standard bearers were weak.

Struggles

But Gore has found himself battling with fellow moderate Richard Gephardt, a Missouri Congressman, for support among conservative whites. The Rev. Jesse Jackson is backed by most of the region's large black population and Massachusetts governor Michael Dukakis has southern white liberals all to himself.

"Gore and Gephardt might wash each other out," laments Texas Democratic chairman Robert Slagle, a Gore supporter. "Recently, Gore has repeated his message to emphasise his concern for the economic struggles of the average American."

"My message is to bring the campaign back to the grass roots, and bring the White House back on the side of working men and women," he says in his southern campaign stops.



He has run into a number of other obstacles as well.

Although he represents Tennessee in the Senate, his southern roots are suspect.

He is a graduate of Washington's exclusive St Albans Academy, which he attended while his father, Albert Sr, represented Tennessee in the Senate, and elite Harvard University in Cambridge, Mass. Jackson, a South Carolina

native, has reminded voters of Gore's suspect roots — noting in a recent debate that he was the only candidate who had graduated from southern schools.

Young

And despite 11 years in Congress, eight of them in the House, and a reputation as an arms control expert, many Americans think Gore is simply too young for the job.

"I like young Gore," said one young man here for Gore's appearance at a breakfast meeting. "I think he'd be a great vice president."

That is another dilemma — convincing people he is not really after the second spot on the Democratic ticket.

At a fund-raising breakfast here, A.L. Philpot, speaking of the Virginia House of Representatives,

already gone unheeded by angry Palestinians. Yet, there may still be enough time to reverse the escalation of violence in the area if American officials act quickly, as they now appear to be doing.

Washington insiders say that, just one week before Mubarak's visit, Secretary of State George Shultz wished to have nothing more to do with the Palestinians. Within days of Mubarak's departure, Shultz announced the administration's willingness "to engage itself heavily and commit time and resources" to a peace process. Mubarak certainly cannot be granted total credit for Shultz's change of heart, but his visit was clearly a critical ingredient. Now one can only hope that US officials will take full advantage of the good offices of the Egyptians and others to make real progress toward peace in the area.

The Christian Science Monitor News Service

Mubarak in advantageous position to mediate

By Kirk J. Beattie

WASHINGTON: As a good Muslim, Egypt's President Hosni Mubarak prays facing Mecca, but since assuming his office in 1981 he has undertaken an annual "hajj" (pilgrimage) to the West, and Washington, many more times than to Mecca.

These visits, used for consultation with his economic and military benefactors in the United States, have been intentionally conducted with little fanfare.

Mubarak is well aware that former President Anwar Sadat's ostentatious attachment to the West cost him dearly in his standing with most Egyptians. In addition, a lower profile has been more in keeping with Mubarak's persona.

Recent events in the Middle East, however, placed this year's visit in the limelight. As a result of Iran's Islamic revolutionary threat moderate Arab regimes

have prudently chosen to end their ostracism of Egypt. Mubarak is thus left in a critical mediating position between Arabs and Israelis, a position enhanced by his sound relations with the US and the Soviet Union.

Years of quiet diplomacy, underpinned by Egypt's demographic and military weight, abandonment of Sadat's vitriolic attacks on the Arab brethren, undemanding assistance to Iraq, and a great amount of patience, have yielded impressive payoffs in the international arena and returned Egypt to its traditional, potentially pivotal role in regional affairs.

Challenge

Gulf Arabs and moderate Israelis have begun now to pin their hopes for a renewal of the Arab-Israeli peace process on Egyptian diplomacy.

Yet, if Mubarak's star has ascended in foreign affairs, the

same cannot be said of his position on the domestic scene. He finds himself hamstrung by the powerful challenge of a wide array of Islamic fundamentalist groups.

Given Egypt's chronic economic difficulties and Western creditor pressure to curtail government subsidies on many basic commodities, Egyptians have lived for several years in constant anticipation of an economically induced social explosion that could be exploited by Islamic militants to initiate a revolutionary thrust. The same internal threat makes it highly unlikely that Mubarak would overtly provide military troop assistance to the Gulf countries or Iraq.

The fundamentalist challenge compels Mubarak to come to the fore on Palestinian rights. To fail to speak out against Israel's oppressive policies would leave the field wide open to Islamic

militants, who already accuse Mubarak of doing far too little to defend his Palestinian brothers. This factor, as well as a genuine concern for the fate of the Palestinians, has motivated Mubarak to launch a new peace initiative, calling for a six-month cessation of hostilities in the occupied territories, an end to settlement activities there, and the convening of an international peace conference.

Halt

Mubarak, for reasons alluded to earlier, could not and would not address the American public on these issues with anywhere near the impact that Sadat would have. Yet Mubarak's desire for genuine, lasting peace in the area is the same, and, in contrast to Sadat's former standing, Egypt's President is able and willing to mediate among all parties to the conflict.

Mubarak's call for a six-month halt of hostilities has

Super Tuesday pre-election polls at a glance

WASHINGTON, (Reuters): Democrats in 20 states and Republicans in 17 states will vote for their choice for the presidential nomination on "Super Tuesday," (today), the biggest one-day series of pre-election voting contests in US history.

At a glance, here's what is at stake:

Republicans
CANDIDATES: George Bush, Vice-President and front-runner of rolls in the southern-dominated races. Robert Dole, Senate Republican leader fighting to stay in contention. Pat Robertson, former TV evangelist needing big outpouring of religious followers to be a contender. Jack Kemp, New York Congressman who might drop out unless he scores upset wins.
At stake: Republicans will nominate their presidential candidate at the Republican convention in New Orleans, starting August 15.

It will require, 1,139 delegate votes to win, a majority of the 2,277 delegates.

On Super Tuesday, Republicans will select 753 delegates, about 33 per cent of all delegates and 66 per cent of the number needed to win.

Democrats
CANDIDATES: Michael Dukakis, Massachusetts governor, showing well in some polls in the south. Jesse Jackson, civil rights leader and only black, expected to make big surge in south among blacks. Richard Gephardt, Missouri Congressman hopes populist message will win in south. Albert Gore, Tennessee senator needs big victories in his native south to be viable. Paul Simon, Illinois senator who dropped out of active Super Tuesday campaigning. Gary Hart, running token campaign after poor starts in earlier races.

At stake: Democrats will pick their nominee at the Atlanta convention starting on July 18. It will require 2,082 out of the 4,162 total delegates to win.
On Super Tuesday, 1,307 delegates will be chosen, more than 31 per cent of the total Atlanta delegates, or nearly 63 per cent of the majority needed to win.

Chinese debate over press law

By David R. Schwelsberg

BEIJING, (UPI): An often bitter debate is raging in Chinese media, academic and government circles over proposals for China's first press law, offering a rare glimpse of resentment at an Orwellian official grip on information management.

Despite considerable loosening in recent years in what is sanctioned for print in China, the behind-the-scenes arguments tell of continued tight control and intimidation of those who buck the traditional system of the press as propaganda vehicle.

"Besides a comparative lack of news in our paper, we are sometimes hard-pressed not to lie," acknowledged a senior editor during a recent private forum on the proposed legislation.

The press law, the first since the communists came to power in 1949, is intended to codify a new role that has been emerging for

the country's 400,000 member media establishment as a watchdog against official corruption and inefficiency under the leaderships experiment with "Kaifang," or "opening." The extent of relaxation is still uncertain. Nationwide debates among journalists, academics, judges and Communist Party officials on drafts of the law have bogged down in whether it should stress freedom or restraint.

In symbolic irony, official reports on the law are classified "Neibu," or "internal," restricted from foreigners and the public.

But Chinese sources say closed forums on the law, held in major cities, have aired unusually candid complaints.

Judges and officials advocated limits on freedom, warning against infringement of individual rights or disclosure of "state secrets" — which in China can mean anything unpublished.

By Julian Baum

LONDON: When David Owen co-founded the Social Democratic Party (SDP) seven years ago, he was a fresh and original voice at the centre of British politics.

Now his future is uncertain. Abandoned by a majority of former SDP members with the Liberal Party, Dr Owen has embarked on another mission to rebuild his party.

"We've got a rough ride ahead," he told the Monitor in an interview at his office near Parliament where he holds a seat from Plymouth. He said his first priority is to build the membership of what he calls the "continuing Social Democratic Party" and to do "a lot of bridge building and repair work."

Owen's Campaign for Social Democracy, which he founded last summer, will emerge soon as the new SDP. The organisation began with an initial membership of 5,000 voters who supported his resignation as leader of the SDP over the merge issue.

The group has grown to about 22,000 members, and his staff said that new applications are coming in faster than computer operators can enter the names, though the total number so far is

David Owen's future uncertain

well below the estimated 54,000 members of the SDP before it split.

Owen is joined in his efforts to keep the party alive by Rosie Barnes and John Cartwright, two other SDP members of Parliament who did not agree to a political marriage with the Liberals.

Recruit

Until now, Liberal leader David Steel and the new leader of the Social Democrats, Robert MacLennan, have done the most to help him recruit new members. Owen said. He referred to a well-publicised revolt in January among Liberal Party members when the two-party leaders presented a joint manifesto proclaiming policies unacceptable to the more numerous Liberals. The fiasco almost sabotaged the merger decision and pushed many voters into the Owen camp.

Did the centre of British politics commit hara-kiri in the process? "I think that is an open question," Owen mused. In his opinion, there was "not the policy agreement to make a true and happy marriage. I don't believe you will ever carve out the centre ground in British politics

unless it (the Party) has hard edges, unless it has a core policy," said the former medical doctor.

Owen describes the core policies of the SDP as "left of centre," though he doesn't like the term. He says he remains concerned with social justice and the redistribution of wealth from his early years as a member of the Labour Party and in posts as government minister for health and social services and secretary of state for foreign affairs.

Monopoly

He clings to the idea, which first surfaced in Britain in the 1970s, of integrating the tax system with the social security system "with a considerable generosity" to eliminate the rivalry and reduce the inefficiencies of two unwieldy bureaucracies. He also affirms the need to create wealth and improve Britain's competitiveness in international markets while opposing some government programmes that claim to address the same concerns.

He argues, for instance, that the government's plan to privatise the national electricity mon-

opoly will merely turn a public monopoly into a private one.

On defence policy, however, Owen is close to the views of Conservative Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, and his stand on arms control policy has earned him grudging respect on both sides of the political spectrum. The British and French nuclear deterrents are "positively a good thing," he said, and he supports the modernisation of Britain's nuclear submarine force.

Cooperation

In a meeting with a senior group of United States senators recently, Owen gave strong support to the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty and emphasised the need to go ahead with the modernisation of the nuclear-armed aircraft for Nato forces in Europe. He told the senators that it was important to make distinctions among different categories of weapons and to give top priority to the development of a stand-off, air-launched nuclear missile, a weapon which he described as "absolutely sacrosanct."

"I put it very strongly that it was the American interest to sup-

Breeding problems in captivity

Zoos around the world now contain more than half a million individual mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians, but they are severely limited in terms of sheer space and animal care capacity to preserve the interests of endangered species.

By Norman Myers

NOAH built his Ark of wood, and it did the job. Today we build our zoos of sturdier stuff. But will they do their latter-day job of helping multitudes of threatened species?

According to Dr William Conway, director of the New York Zoo and chairman of the American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums, modern zoos can do a great deal to support the primary conservation goal of safeguarding species in their wild habitats. No less and no more.

Zoos are severely limited in terms of sheer space, let alone animal-care capacity. All the animal space in the world's zoos would comfortably fit inside the Inner London Circular.

During the past few years they have bred about 9 per cent of all 8,700 bird species, and 19 per cent of all 4,500 mammal species.

Not all of these are yet threatened or rare creatures; this is the case for only 12 per cent of the birds and 48 per cent of the mammals. But the number of endangered forms is expanding rapidly.

It is an expensive business to care for threatened animals. To look after one Siberian tiger costs almost £2,000 a year, which means that to care for an expected total of 500 Siberian tigers in the world's zoos over a period of 20 years will cost almost £20 million.

Gorillas are even more costly: the 500 in zoos cost £2,850 each per year, making a total of £28 million over 20 years. Unless we can keep them alive in captivity, we shall probably witness, within the coming decades, the demise of around 100 large carnivore species, some 160 species of primates, and perhaps 215 herbivores other than primates, plus about 300 species from other mammalian orders, making a total of about 800 species.

Something similar will hold for birds. In addition we shall have to depend on zoos for the survival of several hundred

It is an expensive business to care for threatened animals. One Siberian tiger costs almost £2000 a year to care for, which means that to care for an expected total of 500 Siberian tigers in the world's zoos over a period of 20 years will cost almost £20 million.

species of reptiles and amphibians. All in all, then, we need to think in terms of zoo care for at least 2,000 large terrestrial vertebrates.

Yet it costs an average of at least £410 for annual maintenance (space, food, heating, veterinary care and the like) of an individual of typical species. This means that were the zoos of the world to maintain 2,000 species at population levels of 500 each (considered a probable optimal for genetic health purposes) over a period of 20 years, it would cost well over £8 billion, roughly half as much as it cost the US to put a man on the Moon. Some observers think the cost could be twice as much or more.

Worse, we certainly shan't be



Who will pay for the next meal? Tigers face real problems.

able to return more than a handful of species to the wild within the next 20 years. A realistic prognosis is that we may have to wait 200 years so the zoo bill could eventually amount to hundreds of billions of pounds, simply to save 2,000 species from the abyss.

True, the task may eventually be facilitated by advances in biotechnology. We may be able to cut corners on breeding techniques, using "frozen zoo" measures. But given the present state of scientific research into captive breeding, it will probably be decades before cryotech-

almost 1,200 Siberian tigers ever counted in the international stud book (including those now dead), all derive from an original stock of 39 wild-born specimens.

These tigers epitomise the problems of small animal populations such as occur in zoos and increasingly in the wild. Small populations rapidly lose genetic diversity that is vital for species to maintain their adaptability and vigour. The smaller the population, the faster the loss.

Equally important, it is not enough, for genetic health needs, merely to count the number of animals. The "genetically effective" size of a population is a function of the proportion of animals that actually reproduce, considered in conjunction with their sex ratios and family sizes. The more disparate are the sex ratio and family size, and the smaller the proportion of breeders, the faster is genetic diversity lost. Indeed the genetically effective size can vary from one-tenth to twice the size of the total population. By the late 1970's, and due primarily to great variations in family sizes, the critical size of the Siberian tiger population in North America was only 10 to 20 per cent of their numbers.

Worse, this North American tiger population is ageing. If recent trends were to continue until 1990, about 45 per cent of the females and 29 per cent of the males would be well past the "demographic prime" for such tigers. In other words, the population would be far on its way to genetic instability, and hence to demographic senescence.

nology (to use the scientific term for frozen zoo methods) to become a viable alternative to conventional breeding for most species. Moreover, cryogenics, like many technological fixes, could prove extremely expensive. After all, it has cost us millions of pounds and decades of research to develop techniques for just a single species, cattle.

Along the way, we shall encounter some difficult challenges of "breeding ethics". Consider the Siberian tiger. According to zoo-tiger experts Drs Tom Foose and Ulysses Seal of the Minnesota Zoo, there are about 700 Siberian tigers in zoos today, more than remain in the wild. Almost 90 per cent of them have been born in captivity. Of the

By Jan Ziegler

WASHINGTON (UPI): Bush pilots and hunters in Africa used to say that elephants' innards rumble like low thunder when the beasts are contented, but the noise is actually a form of conversation that may communicate everything from danger to ardour.

Elephants talk to each other by producing sounds of very low frequency, ranging from the lowest audible to the human ear to way below, wildlife specialist Katie Paine has found.

"It turns out there's quite an extensive communication system and quite a repertoire of sounds that are too low for us to hear," Paine said at a recent World Wildlife Fund seminar. "It's not tummy rumbling," said Russell Train, head of the fund.

Paine and colleagues including Joyce Poole of the African Wildlife Foundation, who have studied elephants in Africa, believe the low-pitched banter originating in the animal's throats and sometimes causing a throb in their foreheads explains certain puzzling aspects of elephant behaviour.

For instance, it explains how elephants that have been standing around the veldt can suddenly form a cohesive herd and hotfoot it away from danger when, for instance, a Masai warrior shows up.

Preliminary calculations indicate the sounds may be audible to other elephants up to six miles away. This may explain how elephants seem to be able to keep track of each

Elephant talk

Tummy rumbling? No it's just a few elephants in conversation. Katie Paine who has studied elephants in Africa believes that the low-pitched banter originating in the animals' throats is actually a form of conversation that may communicate everything from danger to ardour.



Elephants in the veldt: their low rumblings are a form of conversation, says an elephant-watcher.

others' locations even when separated and how different families can travel in absolutely parallel tracks, unseen by each other.

Communication

"My guess is, infrasound communication enables elephants to spread out in the dry season for foraging and still know where each other is," said Paine, referring to frequencies below the range that can be heard by humans.

"Most important, it may enable them to find mates in spite of the fact they live at a distance from one another," she said.

For some reason, Paine said, Poole's work has shown dominant bulls who leave their living areas to find a mate always latch on to lead females who are ready for them, even though the females' period of estrus may last only 24 hours. Low-frequency elephantine

come-hithers and where-art-thous doubtless have something to do with this, said, whose work is sponsored by the WWF.

"It can't happen randomly," she said. Paine and a colleague have recorded more than 1,000 calls and have begun classifying them.

"The next question that we have is, over what distance are these calls effective?" she said.

Paine plans to travel back to Etosha, a reserve in Namibia where she has done her research, to play some elephant recordings at various distances from live elephants and see what the response is and how far away they can be heard.

Paine, a research associate in the laboratory of Ornithology at Cornell University, stumbled across the phenomenon while sitting in a elephant case at the Washington Park Zoo in Portland, Oregon. She realised she had felt a low throb in the air.

"It occurred to me this had happened to me before, when I was in the presence of close thunder, when I stood near an organ pipe that was playing very low," she said.

In the zoo, the elephants tended to call to one another when zoo keepers came or left or when they heard other elephants calling, she said.

She said it was the first time a land animal had been found to make infrasonic noises. Paine previously spent more than a decade researching whales, which also have an infrasonic communication system, with former husband Roger Paine.

By Suzanne Malich

FERGUS FALLS, Minnesota (AP): The Llamas grazing on Jan and Gene Wells' farm are lovable and lucrative, two reasons the shaggy creatures are becoming popular pets and prized investments.

"In lots of ways, they're the perfect animal," Mrs Wells said. "They don't bite, they don't kick. The only thing they do is spit a foul-smelling cud, and they do that mostly among themselves."

Llamas are one of hottest investments in the 1980s and have become a status symbol for some, says Brad Smith, an assistant professor of veteri-

Llamas: the new status symbols

ary medicine at Oregon State University.

"The return on investment is remarkable," said Smith, who directs a llama research programme.

Llamas, a long-necked and humpless cousin of the camel, sell for as much as \$80,000 dollars and could break \$100,000 soon, he said. There are about 20,000 llamas in the United States, mostly in the states of California and Oregon.

The Llamas, which can range

from black, gray, white, brown or any combination, are natives of South America and were raised to be pack animals and for their wool.

"Llamas are incredibly curious, super inquisitive animals," Smith said. "A lot of people would have a hard time spending 20,000 dollars for a pet, but for others, they're perfect."

A sign reading "Llama crossing" greets visitors at the Wells' llama breeding farm, called horseshoe valley llamas, just

south of Fergus Falls in north-central Minnesota.

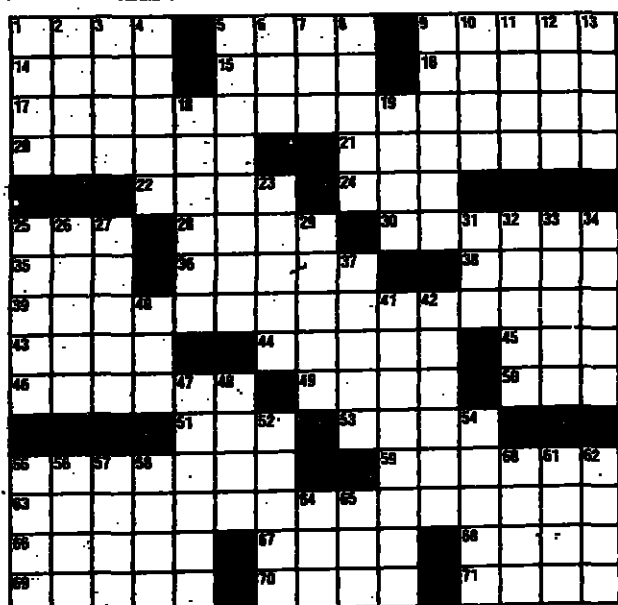
The llama business is becoming increasingly lucrative, the couple said.

"It is our main source of income," Wells said. "There's a good market for them and the profit is very high."

The females start out at about 6,500 dollars and a high-quality female can sell for more than 10 times that amount, Mrs Wells said. The males usually start at about 500 dollars, with the females fetching higher prices because they are the producers, she said.

The Wells spend about 1,500 dollars a year on feed and medical expenses for their llama herd.

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- Sea bird
 - Feature of a frigate
 - Confabulations
 - Brainstorm
 - Ski resort in Utah
 - Neuveau — 17 Stay cool
 - Contaminant
 - Fantare
 - Kind of light
 - Work unit
 - Charged atom
 - Author of "Lucky Jim"
 - Diane or Buster
 - fl
 - Philo, the sleuth
 - Alto
 - Watch out!
 - Away from the wind
 - Violinist Isaac
 - If by land
 - Weasel's relative
 - Speaker of the diamond
 - Prof's deg.
 - Down Under leaper
 - Bishoprics
 - Shores of Tripoli force
 - Capital of Campania
 - Means to success
 - Forest dwellers
 - Nora's pooch
 - the finish
 - Doctrine
 - Not spurious
 - Monster's loch

- DOWN**
- "Kon —"
 - Blissful place
 - Sand ridge
 - Nuchal areas
 - 5 in a

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
ELIMINATE THE GUESS

Both vulnerable. West deals.

NORTH
♠ K Q 9
♥ J 7 3
♦ A Q 10
♣ A J 10 6

WEST
♠ 7 4 3
♥ A K Q 10 9 6 4
♦ 4 2
♣ 5

EAST
♠ 6
♥ 8 5
♦ 9 7 6 5 3
♣ Q 8 7 4 2

SOUTH
♠ A J 10 8 5 2
♥ 2
♦ K J 8
♣ K 9 3

The bidding:
West North East South
3 ♣ 7 Dbl Pass 4 NT
Pass 5 ♣ Pass 6 ♣
Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: King of 7

There are many situations where you can take a finesse either way. If, when the time arrives to take it and it is still a pure guess, you probably went wrong somewhere in the play.

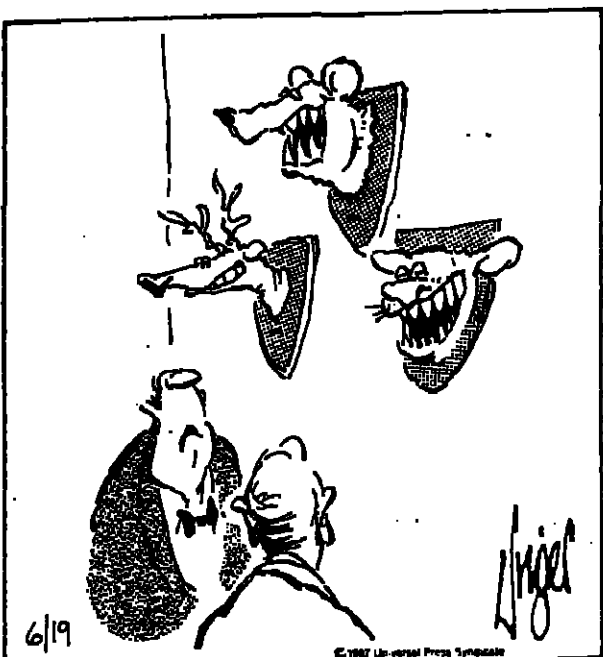
North had an awkward hand. It was certainly strong enough to act, but it was square and had only three cards, albeit choice ones, in the unbid major. He elected to act, and

before he knew it he found himself being dummy while partner played six spades.

Because of the unfortunate duplication in diamonds, declarer found that his slam depended on finding the queen of clubs. He could take the finesse either way, and that would have complicated the situation had declarer found it essential to rely on the finesse. Instead, he made the contract iron-clad, as the cards lay.

Declarer ruffed the second round of hearts, drew trumps ending in dummy and ruffed the last heart as East showed out. Then came three rounds of diamonds, and when West followed to the first two of these, declarer could claim his contract. West had shown up with three spades, seven hearts and two diamonds, so he could hold at most one club. Declarer led a club to the ace and ran the jack of clubs to score his slam.

Note that if North did not have the ten of clubs, the only chance for the contract would have been to find West with a singleton honor in the suit. Far from being a hindrance, the two-way finesse actually made the slam a laydown.



"I had no choice. My wife thinks hunting is cruel."

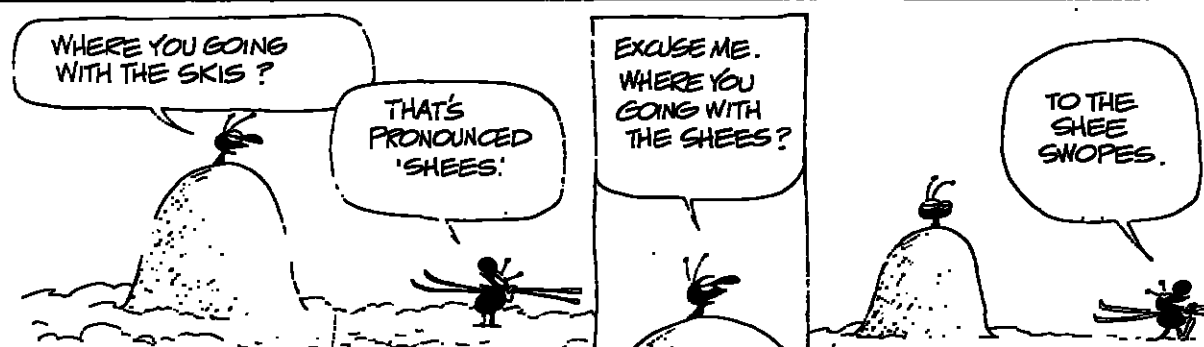
THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS



Aries (March 20 - April 18)

You will find more doors open to you, but you must still take care. If you do not you are liable to create confusion. Try to ensure you do not offend anyone. Be sensible.



Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

You should avoid allowing work to eat into your leisure time. Make sure you do not lose your temper with anyone less of all a child. Beware of deluding yourself. Be a little more optimistic.



Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

Make sure you do not rely on luck to get you out of trouble. Do not lose contact with a friend who is moving house. You will have to dress more appropriately than you have been of late. Be less resentful.



Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

You will not be in the best of moods but you should be able to get over being quarrelsome. You should not be slow to show your appreciation. Try to avoid giving rise to jealousy. Be cordial.



Leo (July 22 - Aug. 21)

You should pay a little more attention to your health, something you have been learning to suddenly fall into place. You should avoid any kind of exaggeration. Be on your guard.



Virgo (Aug. 22 - Sept. 21)

You will be in rather high spirits and must try to contain yourself. You will have something to be really pleased about. Try not to contradict yourself. Be a little more considerate.



Libra (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22)

Unless you seek to organise yourself better you are liable to get into a muddle. You should go out of your way to play fair. Make sure you welcome rather than resist change. Be objective.



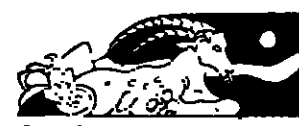
Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)

You should make sure that others understand what you are saying. You should pay great attention to maintain harmony with your friends and colleagues. One of your problems requires a little more patience. Be less obstinate.



Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)

You need a little more common-sense and a lot more goodwill. You should concentrate on essentials and leave the details until later. Do not leave planning for a journey until the very last minute.



Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan 19)

Your personal life will have moments of tension and you will need forbearance to deal with them. You will realise how lucky you have been. Do not take everything quite so literally. Be sincere.



Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)

You will feel a little more enterprising than you have been of late. You should deal with something you have been putting to one side. There is room for just a little more optimism. Be less suspicious.



Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 19)

Quick action is needed if you do not want things to get out of control. Do not be so keen to believe all you hear. You will be able to use one of your special skills to good use. Be resolute.

Dear Junior Readers,

An essential part of your participation in school is paying attention in class. This is sometimes difficult because it is easy to let your mind wander and to begin thinking about what you will do at recess or after school with your friends.

To be a successful student, however, you must give the teacher your full attention. A way of helping you to be an active student is to take notes on what the teacher is saying or to repeat in your mind the information given. Look at the teacher when she/he is speaking, and remove anything from your desk that might be a distraction.

Anyone can simply sit in a chair in a classroom. But an active student is mentally alert and aware of the instruction taking place. Be an active student by focusing your attention on the teacher, and then you will enjoy your recess and after school time, knowing that you have listened and understood what was taught in the classroom.

Aunt Barbara

ASK Quiz Bowl Teams take top places



The American School of Kuwait's Quiz Bowl Team A took first and Team B second place in the EMAC Academic Games held at the Schurz American School in Alexandria, Egypt. Universal American School placed third. Represented were 21 teams from Cairo, Abu Dhabi, Athens, Jordan and Kuwait. All of the teams faced stiff competition in the nine rounds of question and answer sessions. ASK's Team A is pictured above standing with Omar Bhaimia, Naim Hlail, Ray Heaney, Imran Siddiqui, Team B (kneeling) with Omar Siddiqui, Vasudev Gupta, Asadullah Aman, Taric Hegab and Team C (kneeling) with Rami Shahin, San San Lo, Sahar Bhaimia, Gaurav Grover & Dilepan Sivapathasundaram. The teams are pictured with their coaches and sponsors Richard Hartung and Trish Tareco.

Subjects covered in the Quiz Bowl were Science, Mathematics, History, Health, Sports, Music and Entertainment. Students ranged in age from 11 to 14.

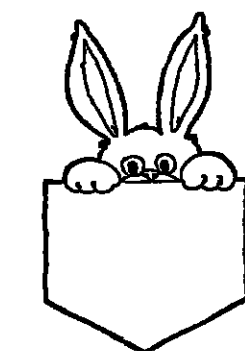
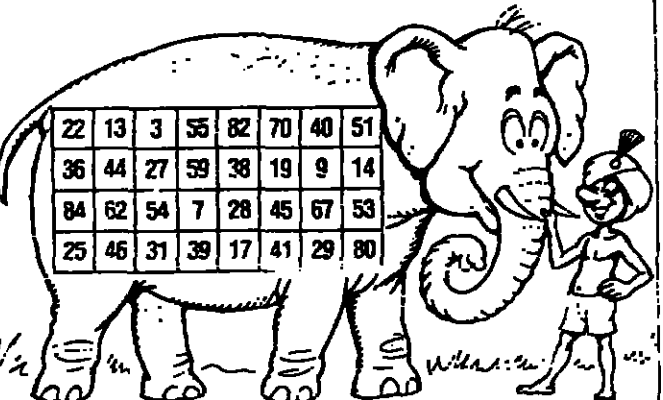
Happy birthday

Bonita Fernandes celebrated her 8th birthday on Sunday, March 6. Happy birthday, Bonita, from your family and friends.



Add it up

Two numbers added up make 88. Can you find them?



Magic tricks

Magic in Your Pocket

That's four in a row

The illusion: Someone calls out a number between 10 and 20, and you count that many cards off the deck. Two smaller packets are taken from that group, one packet for each of the two digits. You pick up the last card dealt and put it to one side face down. All the cards are gathered up, replaced on the deck, and a second number asked for. You repeat the process with new numbers until you have four cards down in a row. Have an onlooker turn them over and there are the four Aces.

The preparation: You have put the four Aces on top of the pack with nine cards on top of them (1). The rest is automatic.

The trick: Ask for any number between 10 and 20. Let's say someone calls out 15. Count that many cards into a pile in front of you and set the deck aside (2). Pick up the 15 cards and tell your audience that a 15 is made of a one (deal a single card slightly to your left) and a five (deal

MR MOLE lived in a secret tunnel. The tunnel started with a hole in Skunk's yard. It ended at the bottom of an old well. Nobody used the well because it was dry. But Mr Mole liked to take naps there.

One day Big Bear walked by the well. He looked down and saw Mr Mole sleeping in the well. "Oh, my goodness," said Big Bear. "Poor Mr Mole has fallen in the well."

Big Bear lay down and stuck his head into the hole. "Mr Mole," he called. "Mr Mo-o-ole."

Mr Mole didn't stir. "Oh, dear," cried Big Bear. "He's been knocked out! I must rescue him." And he ran off to look for a rope.

Soon he met Squirrel. Squirrel was sitting by the road looking at a pile of bricks. "Quick, Squirrel," said Big Bear. "I need a rope to rescue Mr Mole, who has fallen in the well."

Squirrel did not look up. "That's terrible," he said. "I'd like to help. But first I must carry these bricks to my house. If you can find me a wheelbarrow, Big Bear, I'll give you a rope."

"Thank you, Squirrel," said Big Bear. And he ran off. Down the road he saw Owl. "Quick, Owl," called Big Bear. "I need a wheelbarrow for Squirrel, so he can get me a rope to rescue Mr Mole, who has fallen in the well."

Owl blinked. "Count on me, Big Bear. I think I know where I can find a wheelbarrow. But right now I have to feather my nest. If you can find me a soft pillow, I'll get you a wheelbarrow."

Big Bear to the rescue

"That's very nice of you," said Big Bear. And he ran off. Soon he saw Spotted Pony eating grass by the road. Big Bear was breathing hard. "Quick, Spotted Pony," he shouted. "I have to find a pillow for Owl, so he can find a wheelbarrow for Squirrel, so he can get a rope to rescue Mr Mole, who has fallen in the well."

Spotted Pony was trying to scratch his back. "That's a very sad story," he said. "I'll look for a pillow. But first I have to get these flies out of my mane. Find me a brush, and I'll find you a pillow."

"Thank you, Spotted Pony," said Big Bear. Big Bear ran to Skunk's yard at the end of the road. Skunk was eating a piece of toast. Big Bear collapsed

on the grass. "Quick, Skunk," he gasped. "Mr Mole has fallen in the well, and I need a brush to rescue him."

"What?" said Skunk. "How are you going to rescue Mr Mole with a brush?"

Big Bear sighed. "It's a long story. Just give me the brush, Skunk."

Skunk took a tiny bite of toast. "Sure," he said. "As soon as I've finished eating this very dry piece of toast." Then he headed, "Of course, I'd get done a lot faster if I had some honey."

Big Bear jumped up. "Honey?" he said. "I have lots of honey at home." Big Bear ran to his house. He got a jar of honey and took it to Skunk. Skunk gave him a brush.

Then Big Bear raced

across the field to Spotted Pony. "Now hurry and get the pillow," said Big Bear, putting the brush in Spotted Pony's teeth. "And meet me in Skunk's yard."

Big Bear ran up the road. He passed Owl. "You'll find a soft pillow in Skunk's yard," he shouted. "And don't forget the wheelbarrow."

Finally, he came to Squirrel. Squirrel hadn't moved. "Okay, Squirrel," said Big Bear. "There is no time to lose. Bring the rope to Skunk's yard and you'll get the wheelbarrow. But hurry!"

Bank in Skunk's yard, Big Bear walked around and around. At last the others came. "Please," called Big Bear, "if you will just get in line, we can finish fast."



While they were lining up, a small brown head poked through the hole in Skunk's yard. It was Mr Mole. He had finished his afternoon nap at the bottom of the well. He wanted to get some air.

Mr Mole was surprised to see all his neighbours. They didn't see him. So he just stayed quiet and waited to find out what would happen.

The trading began. Spotted Pony gave Owl the soft pillow. "I'm only doing this for the sake of Poor Mr Mole," said Spotted Pony, brushing his mane with Skunk's brush. Owl pushed the wheelbarrow toward Squirrel. "I wonder if Mr Mole knows all the trouble we've gone to," said Owl, hugging his pillow.

Squirrel threw Big Bear a rope. "Mr Mole is very lucky to have us for friends," said Squirrel, taking the wheelbarrow.

Big Bear caught the rope. "A rope," he shouted. "At last a rope! Someone behind them coughed."

"Did you hear something?" Squirrel asked. "I think so," said Spotted Pony. "It sounded like a cough," said Owl.

"AHEM!" They all jumped. There was Mr Mole. For a second no one moved. Then they rushed over to Mr Mole. They shook his paw and slapped his back. "How did you get out? How did you get out of the well?" they kept asking.

"What do you mean?" Mr Mole answered. "I just walked through my tunnel, the same as always."

"Oh," said Squirrel.

"Oh," said Owl and

Spotted Pony and Skunk. Big Bear said, "It's nice to have you with us, Mr Mole. This is my fault. When I saw you lying at the bottom of the well, I thought you'd fallen in." Big Bear held up the rope. "I was trying to rescue you."

Mr Mole nodded. "Well," he said, "I can understand the rope. But how were you going to get me out with a jar of honey? Or a pillow? Or a brush? Or a wheelbarrow?"

Everyone talked at once. "My toast was too dry," said Skunk.

"My nest was too hard," said Owl.

"My back was too itchy," said Spotted Pony.

"My bricks were too heavy," said Squirrel.

Everyone stopped talking. They all looked at their feet. Finally, Squirrel cleared his throat. "I guess we could have been more helpful," he said.

Owl said, "We were too busy thinking about ourselves." "A person should never be too busy to rescue a friend," said Spotted Pony.

Mr Mole added, "Even when the friend doesn't need to be rescued."

Skunk had the last word. "Everyone's invited to a party in honour of Big Bear," he announced. "Big Bear was the only one who tried his best."

They all cheered.

"Hurrah for Big Bear!"

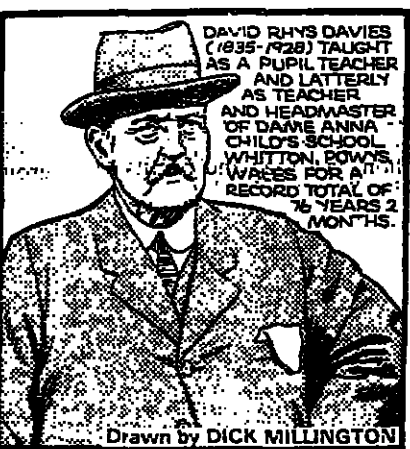
It was a fine party. They had a pillow fight. They brushed each other's backs. They rode around in the wheelbarrow. And they jumped rope.

At supper there was plenty of honey for everyone.

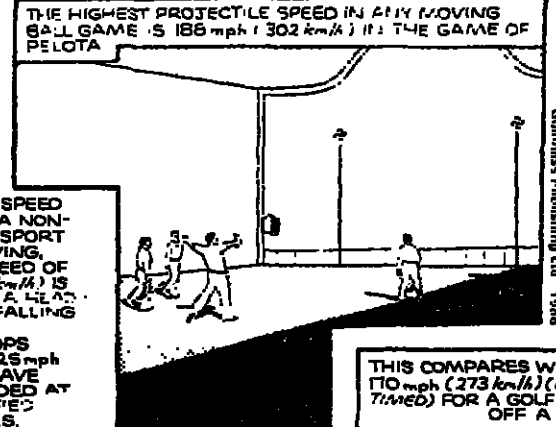
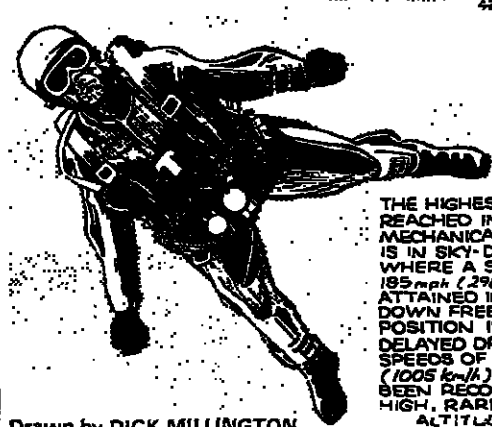
Factfile FROM THE GUINNESS BOOK OF RECORDS



ON 15 APRIL 1814 THE MATHEMATICIAN CARL WITTE OF LOCHAU WAS MADE A DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY BY THE UNIVERSITY OF GIESSEN, GERMANY WHEN AGED 12.



DAVID RHYNS DAVIES (1855-1928) TAUGHT AS A PUPIL TEACHER AND LATERLY AS TEACHER AND HEADMASTER OF DAIRY ANNA CHILDS SCHOOL, WHITTON, POWYS, WALES FOR AN RECORD TOTAL OF 36 YEARS 2 MONTHS.



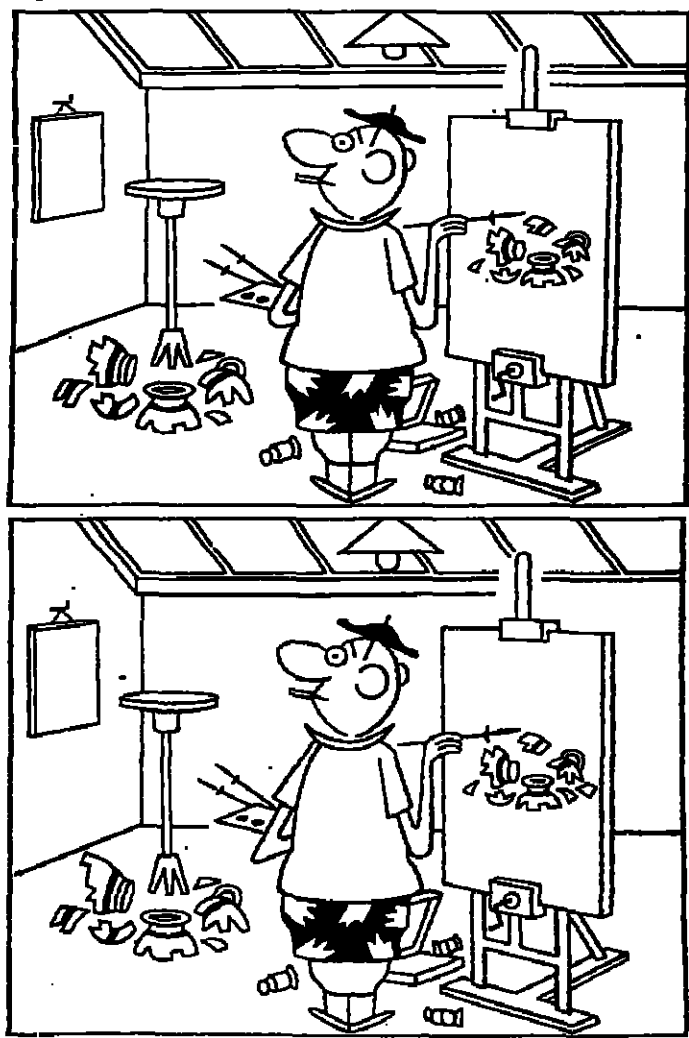
Search for something to wear

Allowance	Ease	Lining	Tack
Appliance	Edge-stitch	Nap	Tailor tacks
Basting	Fabric	Notch	Tape-measure
Bias	Facing	Pattern	Tension
Binding	French seam	Pins	Thread
Blind-stitch	Grade	Press-stud	Top-stitching
Bodkin	Grain	Reinforce	Tucks
Buttons	Gusset	Seam	Vent
Canvas	Hemline	Selvedge	Warp
Casing	Hook and bar	Stay-stitching	Wet
Clip	Interfacing	Stitch	Zigzag
Dart			Zip

V L B K U T U C K S T W S O P H D X K I
I T S O J A M W S N N L S J G N Y M P T
T I A H D C F A R A B D N A K O O H N H
G N H P I K P R P X V Y R B I T Q E F R
A R O J E L I P R S Q N L S S B V M A E
Z E G I E M L N E V R I A H K A C L B A
G I H A S I E A S E N E O C C S U I R D
I N T C N M A S D D P O M A T S N I P
Z F I U G E E N S G U A Q A T I O E C I
H O E H S N O T T U B R C E R N V N X Z
G R C F C L I P U S R W W S O G E E B M
P C N F E T R A D S S E B H L Z D E W A
A E A F C E I N T E R F A C I N G B Z J
T M W H E G G T L T C T A N A W E L L V
T F O E D N N V S L Z S B E T A S E V Y
E B L C I G E I I Y I P B R E H T A G Y
R L L C Q D C N D N A B X F N X I M S K
N I A R G B I A G N S T I T C H T T K T
N F K E G N I H C T I T S P O T C R U L
I P D O G R O D Z Q Y B O A S J H Z U W

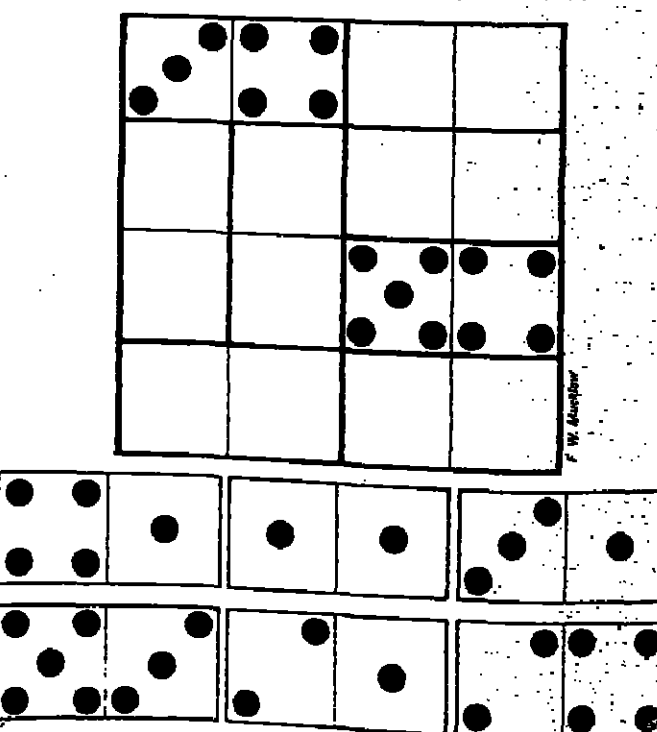
Great potential

Can you spot the eight differences between these two pictures?



On the spot

Can you place the dominoes into the grid so that the four vertical, four horizontal and both diagonal rows each have a spot total of eleven?



BUSINESS & FINANCE

UAE to issue bonds to cut budget deficit

ABU DHABI, March 7. (Reuters) The UAE said today it would issue government bonds worth between one and two billion dirhams (\$270 to \$400 million) to help to reduce its 1988 budget deficit.

The Arabic daily Al-Itihad quoted finance department undersecretary Jovan Salem as saying each bond would be worth at least one million dirhams (\$270,000).

"Such high-priced bonds will cut administrative costs and might be sold only to banks and financial institutions," he said.

Active
Banks could create an active bond investment market by selling smaller denominations to individual clients, he added. He did not say when the bonds would be issued.

A senior finance official said last month higher oil prices meant the projected 1988 budget deficit would be somewhat lower than 1987's 2.76 billion dirhams (\$745 million).

Each of the seven emirates in the federation contributes half its income to the budget. The bulk of the money comes from the two richest, Abu Dhabi and Dubai, whose oil production accounts for more than 97 per cent of total UAE output.

Kuwait has already launched a government bond programme and Saudi Arabia plans to bond on the domestic market in its first fund-raising exercise in 25 years.

Meanwhile, the emirate of Dubai handled more than six million tons of cargo in its import, export and re-export trade during the first 11 months of 1987.

Statoil announces major reorganisation

OSLO, March 7. (Reuters) Statoil, Norway's state oil firm and the country's biggest company, announced a major corporate reorganisation plan yesterday following massive cost-cutting measures.

Board chairman Jan Erik Langangen told a news conference the company would reduce its six divisions to three, but would not alter its interests, which range from North Sea exploration to petrochemicals.

"Statoil is now aiming to realise profits as a business, rather than to develop the North Sea as has been the case for the last 16 years," he said.

The firm, founded in 1972 to build up Norway's then fledgling oil industry, now employs 11,000 people and has annual turnover of 50 billion crowns (\$8 billion). Norway is Western Europe's second biggest oil producer after Britain.

"We will remain with the concept of a fully integrated company, which has proved to be the best in the international oil business," Langangen said.

Statoil had pledged to re-examine its corporate structure after the Mongstad scandal led to the resignation of the board and managing director and caused a political scandal at one stage threatened the minority Labour government.

Malaysian banking team to visit Iran

TEHRAN, March 7. (Opecna) A Malaysian banking delegation is expected to visit Iran soon to make necessary arrangements for direct trade between the two countries. It was announced here at the weekend.

Speaking at the end of a four-day visit here, Malaysian Finance Minister Daim Zaiduddin said the discussions held by officials of the two countries had paved the way for expansion of bilateral economic relations.

The value of trade exchanges between the two countries in the first nine months of the current Iranian year stood at \$8.50 million.

Describing the visit as successful, Iranian Minister of Economic and Financial Affairs Mohammad Javad Irvani said the trade exchanges were expected to increase once a banking agreement was signed by the two countries.

The two sides had earlier announced their readiness to consolidate bilateral ties in economic and technical areas, including oil.

The visiting delegation said Malaysia could export tin, rubber, wood, cocoa, palm oil, fertilisers and industrial goods in exchange for Iranian non-oil goods such as carpets, handicrafts, dates and caviar.

Experts to highlight the interactive role of design in business

How design can build up company's image

THE First International Design Forum, to be held in Singapore, promises to be an international gathering of manufacturers, designers and design educators that will not only discuss but also show how design has given products their competitive edge.

It is an opportunity for participants not only to keep abreast with the latest trends and developments in design but also to sell and shop for design services.

The theme of the forum is "Design — Your Competitive Edge." The forum represents the launching of Singapore's national endeavour to promote the use of good design to sharpen its competitiveness overseas.

To be held from Oct 19 to 23, the forum comprises a three-day conference and a five-day exhibition. The venue of the event is the Raffles City Convention Centre.

Eminent leaders from various international design centres and well-known in the design circle for their contributions to design will be speaking at the conference.

Products
Five countries — Italy, Japan, UK, USA and West Germany — will display well-designed products under their national pavilions alongside with Singapore during the exhibition.

The forum, the first of its kind to be held in Singapore and Southeast Asia, is organised by

the Singapore Trade Development Board (STDB) in collaboration with the Economic Development Board (EDB) and the Singapore Institute of Standards and Industrial Research (SISIR).

The STDB is a national agency set up to promote and expand Singapore's international trade.

Designers
The three-day conference which begins on Oct 19 is expected to be attended by over 400 manufacturers, designers and design educators from Singapore and various parts of the world including countries in Southeast Asia, India and the People's Republic of China.

Manufacturers will be able to learn how to effectively use design in production and marketing during the conference.

Designers and design educators can take this opportunity to update on the latest trends and developments in the international design scene.

A wide range of topics will be covered during the conference including the crucial role design plays in the market success of a product, how design can build up the company's image in the market, design management, design education and computer-supported design.

Workshops will be held to allow delegates to share their opinions on the developments in the design industry and learn

how other companies have effectively used design to increase their profits.

Key speakers of the conference are Mario Bellini and Hans Von Klier from Italy; David Bethel and Kenneth Grange from UK; Kenji Ekuan from Japan; and Charles Owen from USA.

Mario Bellini is one of the leading industrial designers in Italy. He is particularly noted for his work on Olivetti office machines, as well as furniture, lighting, automobiles, tableware and home appliances.

David Bethel, former director of Leicester Polytechnic in the UK, is a distinguished design educator and consultant.

Kenji Ekuan, a top Japanese industrial designer, is best known for his work on Yamaha musical instruments, motor cycles and transport vehicles.

Kenneth Grange, a British industrial designer, achieved international recognition for his work on the Kenwood chef food mixer and the Kodak Instamatic camera. He is also the president of the Chartered Society of Designers in the UK.

Charles Owen is a professor of design at the Institute of Design in the Illinois Institute of Technology, Chicago, USA.

He has done work in the fields of product design, computer-supported design, design methodology and computer graphics.

Hans Von Klier, an eminent industrial designer, is responsible for the design of Olivetti products and furniture from 1960 to 1969. He is currently in charge of Olivetti's corporate identity.

Five national pavilions will be put up by Italy, Japan, UK, USA and West Germany during the exhibition from Oct 19 to 23. They will show off winning entries from the national and international design award schemes and competitions.

The Singapore stand will display a special selection of well-designed products by both local manufacturers and multinational firms. These will be products that are predominantly designed and manufactured in Singapore.

Italian multinational electronic equipment manufacturer, Olivetti, which has been in Singapore since 1980, will be putting up a company pavilion to show how the company's corporate identity was developed over the years together with changes in market conditions and demands.

Olivetti Singapore which has in-house design capabilities, manufacturers and distributes electronic printing calculators, electronic typewriters and inkjet printers.

Foreign, regional and local design consultants and agencies will be invited to promote and offer their expertise and services at the exhibition. They can seize

the opportunity to survey the design requirements of the regional market and establish contacts with potential customers from Singapore and other Southeast Asian countries.

Manufacturers and industrialists can also take this opportunity to look for the appropriate expertise they require for their own needs.

As the design forum is aimed not only at designers but more importantly at manufacturers, businessmen and educationists; and as it is more an industry oriented event, this logo was chosen to highlight the interactive role of design in business.

Consumer
The three characters represent the designer, the manufacturer and the consumer. Together they show the interaction between the designer and manufacturer; the manufacturer and consumer; and the designer and consumer. They symbolise interactive human elements of the design forum as well as the integral role of design in business.

The three dimensional shapes carried by the characters — the sphere, the cube and the pyramid — represent the basic elements and shapes of design. They symbolise the creative concept or idea, as well as the finished product. The totality of the logo has also captured the unique entrepreneurial spirit of the event.

UK output hit by shortage of skilled labour

LONDON, March 7. (UPI) The number of British manufacturers anticipating that shortages of skilled labour will hit output has nearly doubled over the past year, according to the Confederation of British Industry (CBI) this week.

A new survey of skill shortages published by the CBI and the Manpower Services Commission showed that the percentage of respondents affected rose from 19 per cent in 1986 to 34 per cent in 1987.

The survey's conclusions were broadly in line with the CBI's quarterly industrial trends survey and reflected the substantial economic growth in the last year that has led to increased recruitment, particularly at higher skill levels, across manufacturing industry, the CBI said.

Technology
It showed that the group most affected was "professional engineers" — particularly electrical, electronic and mechanical engineers — and that experienced managers, computing and

information technology specialists and some types of engineering craftsmen were also in high demand.

Nomura International, the London arm of the giant Japanese securities house, has been given the green light by the Bank of England to act as market makers in British gilts (government stocks), the company said this week.

Application
The firm, which lodged its request last October, on the first anniversary of Big Bang, said the bank had indicated its approval. The decision by the Japanese state-owned bank to allow four British securities firms onto the Tokyo Stock Exchange removes one major obstacle to entry by Nomura into the gilt market.

Nomura International is part of Nomura Securities, the world's biggest securities house.

It has built up a major presence in London, and is likely to be joined in the gilt market by another Japanese firm, Daiwa Securities, which has also made an application to the bank.

Fast-growing West Country building group Beazer this week announced its biggest foray yet into the US and a £720 million (\$1.296 billion) bid for a major building materials group.

Beazer is making an offer through its holding company, BNS, for Koppers, a group with the interests in building materials and services and chemicals.

The British group is funding the purchase in part with various loans worth £620 million (\$1.116 billion).

Beazer has already said it does not want the chemicals business. Koppers notched up sales of about £860 million (\$1.548 billion) last year and profits of £75 million (\$135 million).

Expand
Beazer, which has been built up almost from scratch over the past decade by chairman Brian Beazer, with a strong of acquisitions in the British building industry, started to expand in the US in October 1986.

Since then it has spent about £190 million (\$342 million) on a concrete products manufacturer,

a housebuilder in Tennessee and a small aggregates producer.

Take-overs are not as simple as they may seem — as two British companies found this week.

Chain store Marks and Spencer (M&S) ran into a last-minute hitch in its £436.3 million (\$785.34 million) bid for US men's clothing group Brooks Brothers.

Sale
A counter-bidder emerged for an American retailer — the Federated Department Stores — the sale of which to Brook's parent company was a condition of the deal with M&S.

Brook's owners, the Canadian group Canapac, needed to raise money for its £3.39 billion (\$6.02 billion) purchase of Federated, hence the Brooks sale.

But the deal with M&S depended upon the completion of the Federated takeover.

Last week the deal to be sown up. But Federated confirmed it has received a last-minute counter-bid from a firm called RH Macey.

South Africa's exports to US hit hard by sanctions

JOHANNESBURG, March 7. (Reuters) South African exports to the United States fell by almost 45 per cent in the first nine months of 1987 after Washington imposed anti-apartheid sanctions.

US Commerce Department figures released in Johannesburg today showed South Africa's exports to the US fell to \$1.01 billion from \$1.82 billion in the 1986 period.

South African exports, which once accounted for 10 per cent of total exports to the United States, fell to zero between January and September last year.

So did exports of gold and silver bullion, coal, iron and steel, and a range of farm products banned by the US comprehensive anti-apartheid act of 1986.

The law, enacted in October, 1986, also barred new investment and bank loans to South Africa.

Vatican budget to be audited in new step to financial openness

VATICAN CITY, March 7. (Reuters) The Vatican yesterday announced that its budget would be audited, taking a major step towards opening its financial affairs to public scrutiny.

The announcement was made after a meeting of a commission of 10 cardinals set up in 1981 by Pope John Paul to oversee the Vatican's troubled finances.

The statement, issued three days after the Vatican gave details of its income and expenses for the first time, said the Holy See foresaw a \$61.8 million deficit in 1988 — its highest ever.

Urged
Vatican financial officials had agreed to an audited budget following suggestions by several Roman Catholic bishops' conferences, the statement said without elaborating.

An informed Vatican source said the auditing would probably be an external one by a specialised accounting firm.

The statement did not say when auditing would begin.

The two recent moves followed years of lobbying by some cardinals, notably Cardinal John Krol of Philadelphia, to get the Vatican to give a regular public account of its finances.

Owened
Krol has often urged the Vatican to agree to auditing, saying the Holy See — whose budget is smaller than those of some US dioceses — had nothing to hide.

As in past years, the Vatican said the 1988 deficit would be covered by dipping into "Peter's pence," a collection taken up in churches around the world for the Pope's use.

Traditionally destined for charitable works, the fund has been nearly exhausted by covering years of deficits.

The statement said Peter's pence amounted to about \$50 million in 1987, up some \$18 million from 1986.

The Vatican Bank has no part in the Holy See budget but contributions to Peter's pence fell after the bank was linked to the collapse of Italy's Banco Ambrosiano in 1982 after a major financial scandal.

The Vatican Bank, known as the Institute for Religious Works (IOR), manages money for religious orders. It owned part of the failed Banco Ambrosiano and Italian authorities had accused it of sharing responsibility for Italy's largest private bank failure.

Apple Computer eyes laptop Macintosh

CUPERTINO, California, March 7. (UPI) Apple Computer Inc. has been spitting out products and deals at a rapid pace so far this year, but there is one vision that has remained, as yet, in the background — laptop computer.

The absence of an Apple laptop is a curious anomaly for a company with a raison d'être to bring high technology within reach of the average person, analysts said.

Companies such as Toshiba Corp., Zenith Electronics Corp., Grid Systems and Tandy Corp. have rushed in where Apple has apparently feared to tread, developing a generation of portable machines for workers such as insurance salesmen, geologists and journalists.

Even Apple has acknowledged the potential of the laptop, recently awarding first-place in a college contest to design a computer for the year 2000 to a computer that would be no bigger than a spiral notebook.

However, there are signs that

Apple's absence from the laptop market may soon change. Macintosh Today, a trade journal, recently reported that Apple is secretly developing a 12-pound (5.4kg) laptop computer, code-named Laguna.

The computer would feature a 9.8-inch (25cm) diagonal, stand-up screen, which would use sophisticated new television-screen technology to produce a sharper and clearer picture than those currently available among laptops.

Power
Laguna would also pack substantial power, including 1 megabit of internal memory, expandable through the use of wallet-sized computer cards, plus a battery that could run for up to 10 hours without recharging.

Details of Laguna came from a 150-page memo leaked by an Apple employee, Macintosh Today said. According to analysts, the computer could sell for about \$6,000, based on the components described in the

memo. Barbara Krause, an Apple spokeswoman, declined to comment on the Laguna laptop. But Apple chairman and chief executive John Sculley recently acknowledged the laptop is already an issue, although he hastened to add that "there will not be a portable Macintosh in the near future."

"We wanted to build and sell a portable Macintosh for a long time," Sculley told shareholders in January. "It's just a question of when we get the technology together."

That should be soon, analysts said. Laptops could prove to be one of the hottest segments in the personal computer market in the next few years, and the pace of change among companies with well-established niches in the market is already relentless.

Grid Systems, based in Fremont, California, recently announced it has developed a laptop capable of operating on the Unix Operating System, widely used in government and

industry and a market already targeted by Apple.

Ciba-Geigy Inc., the Swiss pharmaceutical company, said it will buy approximately 1,000 Grid laptops for its sales force, part of the increasing use of small and mid-sized machines in business, another area in which Apple is eager to garner sales.

After years of frustrating users with dim screens, small keyboards and anemic memory, laptops are growing up.

Powerful new computer chips, better design and technological advances that have replaced the hard-to-read green-on-grey screen with snazzier colours have increased the laptop's appeal, along with a general trend towards more flexible, easier-to-use mid-sized machines.

"Cost and quality (among laptops) is just radically improving," said Rick Burgess, a marketing manager for Hewlett-Packard Co. in Palo Alto, California. "The ideal product you would inspect a year ago would not be competitive today."

Banks face crucial week

PANAMA CITY, March 7. (Reuters) Panama's banks closed by a cut-off of US cash and threatened with a trade embargo, begins a week that could make or break its banking industry, business leaders said.

Most bankers said it was unlikely the banks would reopen today after being closed indefinitely on Friday by the banking commission to prevent a run on deposits.

They said it would be a disaster to reopen before being resupplied with dollars. Panama's legal tender, which are flown in from the Federal Reserve Bank in Miami and distributed by the Banco Nacional, the nation's central bank.

Reputation
Panama's use of the dollar as its national currency helped to win a reputation as a sound offshore banking centre, which with its 10,000 employees, is the second biggest source of jobs after the military.

Some bankers said an influx of

dollars — and thus a quick reopening of the banks — could help re-establish the industry's reputation, but it was unclear where such cash might come from.

US officials are also considering other moves, such as a trade embargo and the freezing of \$80 million in annual payments for the operation of the strategic Panama Canal.

Panama city was buzzing with rumours over what steps the government would take.

Concern
Some bankers expressed concern that it would be forced to take drastic measures such as introducing new currency, or nationalising accounts or even some canal-related industry.

Most bankers said such steps would be disastrous for Panama, already reeling from a severe economic crisis sparked by anti-Noriega protests that began eight months ago and was aggravated by a cut-off of American aid.

Oman reports promising new oil find

MUSCAT, Oman, March 7. (AP) Oman has reported a promising new oil find in the southern parts of the sultanate, but the Petroleum and Minerals Minister Saeed Al Shanfari said today that the find will not be put on stream because of the country's policy of restraining oil production.

Officials at the Petroleum Development Oman, the country's main producer, said the find had a potential flow rate of a thousand barrels per day.

Al Shanfari said the discovery would help boost Oman's oil reserves but production would not be undertaken, following orders by Sultan Qaboos to cut output to support Opec's efforts to stabilise world prices.

Oman, which is not a member of the 13-nation Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries, presently produces 536,750 barrels per day, following a 5 per cent cut on Feb. 1, the third in 17 months.

World Business Summary

Marathon to prospect for offshore oil in S. Korea

SEOUL, March 7. (Opecna) South Korea has approved an oil exploration programme by Marathon Oil of the United States in the No 2 mining block off the country's West Coast.

An announcement by the ministry of energy and resources said that under the six-year permit, expiring 1994, Marathon would drill three wells in the 39,000 sq. km area under a 50-50 joint-venture arrangements with South Korea's state-owned Petroleum Development Corporation (Pedco).

Marathon will finance the scheme wholly and will hold production rights for 30 years if the search for oil is successful, according to the announcement. Marathon and Pedco will cooperate in the seismic survey of the block, while drilling on the first well is expected to begin next year.

Between 1969 and 1977, an exploratory programme launched by Gulf Oil in the area failed to yield results. However, Pedco after analysing earlier seismic studies of the area, decided to conduct its own prospecting programme which resulted in the confirmation of six promising reserves.

According to the announcement, the block's hydrocarbon structure is similar to that of the nearby Chinese oilfields.

Some Japanese electronics firms to end sales to S. Africa

TOKYO, March 7. (AP) Several major Japanese electronics makers, including Pioneer, NEC and Fujitsu, will end sales to South Africa following a Japanese government request that companies limit their economic activities there, officials said yesterday. Japanese Foreign Minister Sosuke Uno last week asked members of the Federation of Economic Organisations (Keidanren), an influential business group, to practise "self-restraint" in trade with South Africa to avoid resentment from countries opposed to its apartheid system of racial segregation.

Japan last year became South Africa's largest trading partner. Pioneer Electronic Corp. has decided to stop selling its products to South Africa after current contracts are fulfilled, said Kiro Shinzawa, a company spokesman. He said Pioneer's sales of car stereos and small-sized stereo systems to the country have already declined from 7 billion yen (\$54 million at current exchange rates) in 1980 to \$50 million yen (\$6.6 million) last year.

NEC Corp will end its sales of televisions, videotape recorders and facsimile machines to South Africa, which last year totalled several hundred million yen (several million dollars), a company official said. NEC will continue to sell only spare parts for equipment sold in the past, he said. Fujitsu, Japan's largest domestic computer maker, has asked its European subsidiary to stop selling computer printers to South Africa, thereby ending its sales to the country, a company official said.

However, Hitachi Ltd said it will continue to supply computer central processing units and disk drives to a West German company that produces computers sold in South Africa and elsewhere.

"But we believe that sales of the computers to South Africa will be substantially less this year than last year," said a Hitachi official on condition of not being identified. He said Hitachi has an agreement with the West German company prohibiting sales to South Africa from violating a Japanese government ban on sales of computers that might be used to enforce the apartheid system.

Nigerian private sector urged to generate more foreign exchange

LAGOS, March 7. (Opecna) President Ibrahim Babangida has urged Nigeria's private sector to help generate additional foreign exchange from non-oil exports.

In a keynote address at the annual general meeting of the Manufacturers Association of Nigeria, the president said the private sector should take advantage of all the schemes so far introduced to increase non-oil exports. The public funds channelled to the foreign exchange markets should be seen as supplementary rather than the main source of funding private sector imports, the president added. He said to ease foreign exchange problems, the government was determined to give adequate encouragement to private foreign investors. He also called on the association's members to offer the investors "meaningful partnership."

He assured foreign investors that adequate steps would be taken to protect their interests, adding that a tariff review board would soon be constituted to remove all anomalies in the current structure. The president called on financial institutions not to abdicate their responsibility for promoting export development and diversification of the economy, as well as the implementation of the structural adjustment programme.

He announced that several committees had been set up to consider the issue of privatisation in depth, while the modalities for government disinvestment were being worked out.

Ifad loan for Malawi

ROME, March 7. (Opecna) The International Fund for Agricultural Development (Ifad) is extending a loan of \$6.40 million and a grant of 0.5 million to Malawi towards a \$14.40 million agricultural credit scheme.

The main object of the project is to raise the productivity and income of about 1.30 million smallholder farmers owning less than three hectares of land by improving the range and quality of credit services available to them.

According to Ifad, Malawi has "one of the more successful seasonal credit systems in Africa," thanks to "rapidly expanding" farmers' clubs.

The Ifad scheme will help in the expansion and consolidating of smallholder credit on a sustainable basis and improve the efficiency of present policies and procedures for credit planning and administration.

The funds generated through the scheme will enable farmers to purchase their basic requirements such as seeds and fertilisers. Farmers holding less than one hectare will not be required to produce any collateral to obtain credit. The scheme will also ensure that women who are engaged in subsistence agriculture and carry the main workload in their households benefit substantially from the facility. The rest of the costs of the project are to be met through a \$5.90 million loan from the International Development Association, a 1.40 million contribution from the Malawi government and 0.2 million from the farmers themselves. The loan agreement was signed here on Friday by Ifad President Dr Idries Jazairy and S E Mapunda, Malawi's ambassador to West Germany.

Earlier Ifad loans to Malawi have been \$10.80 million in 1981 for the Dowa West rural development scheme, 10.50 million in 1983 for a small fertiliser plant, a grant of one million the same year, and 13.60 million in 1984 for the Kasungu agricultural development project.

Iraq to host energy meeting

BAGHDAD, March 7. (Kona) Iraq will host the fourth Arab energy conference under the title "energy and Arab cooperation," on March 14.

The four-day conference will discuss ways of developing energy in Arab countries, industries related to energy and methods of energy savings, Iraq News Agency has reported. Those issues will be tackled by 30 intensive studies and researches which will be presented to the conference.

The organising committee is consists of five inter-Arab organisations in addition to representatives from Iraqi oil ministry, the agency added. The conference will be held in response to the recommendations of Opec's ministerial council to hold an energy conference every 3 years. The first Arab energy conference was held in Abu Dhabi in 1979, the second in Doha in 1983 and the third in Algeria in 1985.

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

LONDON
(Alpha Stocks)

NAME	LAST	INCHCAPE
ADT LTD	113/0	274.0
ALD LYONS	363/0	327/0
AMSTRAD	65.00	380/0
ARGTLL GP	211/0	502/0
ASDA MFT	179.0	395/0
BAA PP	04.89	296/4
BTR	268/0	286/0
BAT INDS	455.0	262.0
BARCLAYS	515.0	648.0
BASS	840/0	238/0
BEAZER	188.0	179/0
BEECHAM	479/0	238/0
BET ORD	253/0	179/0
BICC PLC	346.0	260/0
BLUE ARMY	115.0	193/0
BLUE CIRC	465/0	478/0
BUC GP	395/0	405.0
BOOTS CO	228/0	287/0
BPB INDS	298/0	276.0
BR COM	308/0	570/0
BR AIRWAY	178/0	467/0
BR AEROSP	374/0	677/0
BR GAS PP	137/0	233/0
B.P.	253.0	166/0
B.P.NEW	62.0	864.0
BR TELCOM	249/0	329.0
BRITCEL	500/0	325.0
BUNZL	175/0	675.0
BURMAN OL	498/0	825.0
BURTON	258/0	111/0
CABLESWIR	358/0	150/0
CADBURYS	259/0	435/0
COATS VTY	258/0	433/0
COMN UNI	340.0	362/0
COMS GOLD	835.0	329.0
COOKSON	572.0	325.0
COURTAULD	335/0	325.0
DALGETY	301.0	325.0
DEE CP	184/0	325.0
DIXONS	192.0	325.0
ENR CHINA	415/0	325.0
ENTER OIL	326/0	325.0
FERRANTI	82/0	325.0
FISONS	254/0	325.0
GEN ACCIO	915.0	325.0
GEN ELEC	157/0	325.0
GLAXO	070/0	325.0
GLOBE	330/0	325.0
GRAND MET	495/0	325.0
GUS A	129/0	325.0
GUYARD RL	956/0	325.0
GKN	325/0	325.0
GUINNESS	309/0	325.0
HANSON	134/0	325.0
HAWKER SID	494/0	325.0
HILLSDOWN	303/0	325.0
ICI	065/4	325.0
INI	207/0	325.0

LONDON
(Beta Stocks)

NAME	CLOSE	OPEN
A.B. ELECT	369/0	368/0
A.M. NEW	268/0	268/0
APV PLC	130/4	131/0
AARONSON	122/0	123/0
AAH HGLG	272/0	273/0
ADDISON G	100/0	100/0
ADVEST GP	320/0	320/0
ALEX WRK	180/0	180/0
ALLD TR B	215/0	215/0
ALLIANCE	818/0	820/0
ALLD COLL	140/0	140/0
ALLD PLAN	54/0	55/0
ANAC PLC	171/0	172/0
ANER TRUS	119/0	119/0
ANERSHAM	495/0	495/0
ANGIA TV	421/0	423/0
ANSBACHER	68/0	68/0
U-APP HOL	309/0	308/0
APPEYARD	390/0	390/0
APRICOT	111/0	111/0
ARMSTRONG	150/0	151/0
ANGLO O'S	393/0	393/0
ASHJAS. A	80/0	80/0
ASHLEY I	125/0	125/0
ATWOODS	310/0	310/0
AUTO SEC	249/0	250/0
AVIS EUR	319/0	320/0
AVON RUBB	632/0	630/0
BSG INTL	62/0	62/0
BAILL JAP	490/0	490/0
BAIKER IT	69/0	69/0
BAK OF SCO	568/0	569/0
BARKER DO	149/0	149/0
BART DEV	199/0	198/0
B.WEHLIM	167/0	168/0
BEJAM GP	180/0	180/0
BELHAVEN	44/0	44/0
BELWAY	225/0	225/0
BENROSE	213/0	213/0
BENNETT H	48/0	49/0
BENNETT +F	34/0	35/0
BENTALLS	195/0	195/0
BERKSFORD	307/0	309/0
BERKELEY	295/0	295/0
BRKLY HAY	25/4	26/0
BLCK L2	21/4	21/4
BOASE MAS	145/0	146/0
BOOKER PL	408/0	408/0
BORTHWICK	48/0	49/0
BOWATER	383/0	383/0
BOWTHORPE	185/0	184/0
BROWNE	228/0	228/0
BRENT CHE	339/0	340/0
BRENT WCR	151/0	151/0
BRIDON	015/0	015/0
BRITANNIC	070/0	070/0
BR ASSETS	67/0	66/0
BR LMD CO	276/0	276/0
BR VITA	431/0	431/0

LONDON
(Gamma Stocks)

NAME	CLOSE	OPEN
BRIXTON E	261/0	261/0
BULMER NP	162/0	162/0
BURGESS	255/0	255/0
CRN PLC	120/0	120/0
U-CPH COM	91/0	90/0
CALEDONIA	345/0	345/0
CALOR GRP	550.0	535.0
CANNON ST	279/0	278/0
CAP GROUP	202/0	200/0
CAP.RADIO	189/0	191/0
CARADON	321/0	322/0
CARLO E	163/0	163/0
CARLESS C	104/0	104/0
CARLTON C	750/0	753/0
CATER ALL	348/0	345/0
CENTL TV	526/0	530/0
CHATER CN	315/0	316/0
CHARTERNA	29/4	30/0
CHORIDGE	54/0	54/0
CHRISTIES	585/0	585/0
CHAS. CHUR	112/0	113/0
U-CIFER	18/0	18/0
U-CLUFF	92/0	92/0
CLOYE PET	114/0	115/0
COALITE	325/0	325/0
COATES BR	348/0	345/0
CASE GP	62/0	63/0
COLLINS W	608/0	608/0
COLLINS A	480/0	480/0
CNTRL SEC	47/0	47/0
COLOROL	213/0	212/0
COURTS FR	258/0	258/0
CT GROUP	46/0	47/0
COSTAIN G	319/0	318/0
COURTS A	183/0	185/0
COMIE (T)	120/0	118/0
CRODA INT	195/0	195/0
CROTHIER	121/0	121/0
CRYSTALAT	163/0	163/0
DARRES EST	33/4	34/0
CRSENT JA	144/4	144/0
DAVISON I	210/0	211/0
DE LA RUE	430/0	430/0
DELTA GP	288/0	288/0
U-DEMEY W	108/0	108/0
DRG PLC	398/0	398/0
DIPLOMA	919/0	921/0
DRAYTON J	436/0	438/0
DUNHILL	166/0	167/0
EAGLE TST	16/0	16/4
EAG TS RF	15/4	15/4
EDIN AMER	95/0	95/0
EDIN IT	152/0	153/0
U-ELDRGE	346/0	345/0
ELECTRA I	206/0	206/0
ELECTROD	204/0	205/0
ELEC RENT	99/0	99/0
ELLIS EVA	169/0	170/0
EMAP PLC	201/0	201/0
ELLIS GOL	61/0	61/0
EMPIRE ST	235/0	235/0
ETAM	275/0	276/0
EUTROTHERM	334/0	335/0
EUTROT R	323/0	325/0
EURO W RG	25/4	26/0
EVERED HL	121/0	121/0
EVODE GP	160/0	159/0
U-EXPLAUR	33/0	33/0
FKI BABCO	140/0	141/0
FARNELL E	164/0	163/0
FED. HOUNS	247/0	248/0
FENNER JH	168/0	169/0
FERGUSON	287/0	286/0
U-FIELDS M	125/0	126/0
FINE ARTS	230/0	230/0
FINLAN GP	78/0	80/0
FLEMING J	209/0	208/0
F & C PAC	127/0	126/0
FINLAY J	90/0	91/0
FIRST LEI	557/0	557/0
FIRST NAT	256/0	254/0
FST SCOT	397/0	392/0
FITCH LCV	272/0	273/0
FORDOL IT	105/0	106/0
POSEMO IT	232/0	232/0
FLNG. FE.1	175/0	176/0
FLNG. AM.1	116/0	117/0
FLNG. MERC	169/0	170/0
FLNG. OSEA	159/0	160/0
F R GROUP	285/0	284/0
U-FLOYD O	30/0	31/0
FRESHBAKE	94/0	93/0
U-FORD M	85/0	86/0
GEEST PLC	240/0	240/0
GET INTL	127/0	126/0
GERVON. ENAT	308/0	308/0
GVTT ORIE	260/0	261/0
GLYMED	478/0	478/0
GVTT ATLT	125/0	126/0
GVTT STRT	220/0	221/0
GREYCOAT	335/0	336/0
GRMPTV	446/0	447/0
GRMPTV.H	261/0	261/0
GT PLIND	300/0	301/0
GT UNIVLS	675/0	675/0
GRN. WTL	200/0	201/0
GRN. KING	488/0	488/0
GP PLC	82/0	83/0
HVY GROUP	255/0	258/0
HALL (M)	123/0	123/0
HAMBROS I	205/0	205/0
HALMA	168/0	168/0
HRSH+CRSF	592/0	590/0
U-HATHIN	25/0	25/0
HEATH CCE	376/0	375/0
HELENE LN	44/0	45/0
HENDSON GR	370/0	373/0
HPATH. CRM	225.0	228.0
HEND-STUR	134/0	134/0

NEW YORK

NAME	OPEN	MID-DAY
A BSCH COM	32/1	32/3
ATLANTIC R	74/0	74/4
AAR CORP	21/5	21/6
AETNA LIFE	47/5	47/5
ALASKA AIR	17/1	17/0
ALCAN ALUM	28/1	28/2
ALCO STAND	24/4	24/6
AM CYNAMID	52/2	52/3
AM ELET PN	28/4	28/5
AM HOM PRO	80/4	80/6
AM STNDARD	79/5	79/7
AM TEL-TEL	29/0	29/0
AMOCO CORP	72/5	72/5
AMP INC	51/3	51/4
AMPCO PITT	14/6	14/5
AMR GEN CO	34/3	34/3
AMERADA ME	28/1	28/0
ANTHEM ELE	12/0	11/7
APACHE CP	8/0	8/0
APACHE PET	3/5	3/5
ARCO INC	11/3	11/2
ASARCO INC	24/0	24/0
ASHLAND OIL	62/6	63/1
ATL CORP	40/4	40/2
ATL INTL	24/1	24/1
AVANT INC	25/6	25/6
AVON PRODS	24/0	24/0
BELL ATLAN	70/0	70/1
BCE INC	30/7	30/7
BELL-HOM	62/4	62/4
BETH STEEL	21/3	21/2
BEVERLY	7/5	7/5
BNK BOSTON	24/5	25/1
BNK BOSTN-A	0	48/0
BNK N-YORK	29/6	30/0
BNK TR-NY	36/1	36/1
BNKAMERICA	8/6	8/7
BNKAM SPEC	7/0	7/0
BOEING CO	46/7	47/0
BOISE CASC	47/2	47/5
BORDEN	55/5	55/7
BOWATER	34/0	34/3
BR TELECOM	44/4	44/1
BRIGGS-STYR	31/6	31/7
BRUNSWICK	0	20/6
BURNDY CP	14/5	14/4
C 3 INC	14/2	14/2
CABOT CORP	33/3	33/3
CAESARS W	24/6	24/7
CAL FREIGHT	21/0	21/0
CAS NAT GS	15/0	14/6
CAT-DOCKE	21/4	21/3
CATERPI TR	64/2	64/0
CBI IND	25/6	25/6
CBS	163/4	164/7
CENTEL CP	43/4	43/7
CENTRO DAT	2/4	2/4
CHAMP INTL	36/3	36/4
CHAMP SPA	11/7	11/7
CHARTER CO	4/6	4/6
CHENED CP	25/5	25/6
CHENED CP	36/6	36/4
CHEMICO NY	24/3	24/5
CHIRON	44/2	44/4
CHRYSLER	24/6	24/6
CHUBB CORP	61/4	61/7
CHUR FR CH	7/7	7/7
CIGNA CORP	48/2	49/0
CIM MILACR	24/6	25/0
CIR CIT ST	25/4	25/4
CIRCLE K	12/6	12/6
CITICORP	21/2	21/5
CLARK EQUI	26/0	26/1
CLOROX	30/7	30/7
CMPBL RES	1/5	1/5
CNPBLL SP	29/0	29/2
CAC PAC	18/5	18/5
COACHMEN	7/4	7/4
COASTAL	28/6	28/7
COCA-COLA	38/0	38/1
COLECO	3/0	3/0
COLEMAN CO	37/1	37/1
COLG-PALMN	45/0	45/0
COLT INDS	12/6	12/6
COLUM GAS	32/7	33/1
CON EDISON	28/1	28/2
CONAGRA	25/4	25/6
CON EDISON	44/7	44/7
CONTINENTAL	39/2	39/4
CONTL ILLN	*03	*03
CONTEL CP	34/4	34/6
CONTR DATA	28/4	28/5
COOPER T-R	34/5	34/3
COOPER COM	12/3	12/3
CORNING GL	56/1	56/2
CRANE	29/2	29/3
CRAY RES	84/6	84/6
CULLINET	6/0	6/0
DANIEL IND	8/1	8/1
DATA GEN	27/0	27/1
DATAPONT	4/2	4/1
DAYTON HUD	38/1	38/3
DEC	122/0	121/5
DEERE-CO	44/5	44/6
DELTA AIR	47/4	48/4
DIAMOND SH	11/1	11/0
DIBOLD	47/2	47/0
DISNEY W	60/6	60/6
DOVER CORP	61/6	61/6
DOM CHENIC	88/1	88/1
DOM JONES	33/6	34/1
DRESSER IN	29/2	29/5
DREYFUS	20/4	20/5
DUKE POWER	46/4	46/5
DUN BRAD	52/0	51/7
DUPONT	85/6	86/3
DUCUESNE	13/5	13/6
DYNAMICS	22/0	21/6
E SYSTEMS	30/2	30/4
EASTMAN KOD	43/0	43/2
EATON CORP	73/0	

International Bond Highlights

Frankfurt — France's Compagnie Financière De Credit Industriel Et Commercial is issuing a 300 mln mark, 10-year Eurobond with a 6-1/4 pct coupon priced at 100-5/8, lead manager Morgan Stanley GMBH said. (RTWN 1144)

Istanbul — Turkey will issue a 300 mln mark, seven year 6.75 pct bond agreement on Thursday, Turkish Central Bank General Secretary Ercan Kumcu said. (RTZC 1537)

London — Sanwa Bank International Ltd said it is issuing, via a special purpose subsidiary named Flash VI Ltd, 33.2 mln dlrs in floating rate notes due March 16, 1993. (RTX 1414)

Interbank Rates

CALL	ONE MONTH	THREE MONTHS
LDN 8-1/2 1/4	8-13/16 11/16	9-1/16 8-15/16
FTT 3.30/40	3.40/50	3.40/50
PAR 7-9/16 5/8	7-3/8 1/2	7-1/2 5/8
ZUR 1/8 3/8	1-5/8 1-5/8	1-3/4 2
BRX 5.30	6.00 1/8	6.00 1/8
ROM 10-1/8 10-1/2	11 11-1/2	11 11-1/2
AMS 3-3/4 3-7/8	3-7/8 4.0	3-15/16 4-1/16
TOK 3.5625 6250	3.9375 4.0000	3.8125 8750
ECU 6.06 6.31	6.06 6.18	6.25 6.37

Interest Rates

FOLLOWING are the average KD interest rates of local interbank transactions as reported by participants to Central Bank of Kuwait yesterday.

Period	Bid	Offered
1 month	11 1/16	4 1/16
3 months	4 3/16	4 1/2
6 months	4 7/16	4 13/16
1 year	4 7/16	5 1/8

BOMBAY

	PR.CLOSE	OPEN	CLOSE	GLINDIA	65	63.50	65	MICO	520	510	505
ACC.	146	143	140	GRSFC	31.50	31.50	31.50	MUKAND	79	78.50	78.50
ASIA PAINT	150	147.50	148.75	GRASIM	87	85.50	85.50	MOCIL	437.50	430	425.50
BAJAJ AUTO	412.50	416.25	415	GRSFC	97	96.50	99	ORRAYK	22.50	22	21.50
BAR-ROYAL	165	160	160	HIND LEVER	68	68.50	65	PEICO	27	26.50	27
BOM.DYING	132.50	128	123.50	HINDALCO	122.50	122	121	PFIZER	71	69.50	70
BR. BOND	79.50	78.50	79	HINDCOCCA	78.75	77.50	80	PRE. AUTO	25.25	25.50	25
BSE INDEX	398.98	407.66	407.66	HINDMOTHR	18.50	18	18.25	RAYMOND	47	46.50	47.50
CENTURYSPG	727.50	735	735	IND ORG	18.50	19	17.50	RELIANCE	85	84	82
COLGATE	192.50	193.75	192.50	INDRAN	50	49	49	SIEMENS	67	65	65
DEEPAKERT	29	28.50	28.50	ITC	165	167.50	166.25	SPIC	29	27.50	27.75
ET HOTEL	41	39	40	JYKSTN	32	32	31	STONMILLS	230	225	220
ESKAYEY	201.25	197.50	187.50	L AND T	55.50	56	55	TATA PUR	187.50	185	188.50
ESSAR	17.50	18	17.50	MAHENDRA	79.50	79.50	78	TATACHEM	64	63	63
GAR. POLY	80.50	79	78.50	MASTERSHR	9.12	9	9.12	TISCO	600	602.50	593.75
GE.SHIP	23.25	23.25	22.85	MATHER PL	97	96	96	VOLTA	255	250	250

FRANKFURT

STOCK	LAST PR.	CLOSE
AGE	231.5	225.0
ALLIANZ VR	1378.0	1386.0
BADENWERK	178.0	183.5
BASF	242.0	242.5
BAYER	262.3	263.5
BAYER HYP	357.0	352.0
BAYER VER	357.5	346.0
BBC	307.5	311.0
BIF	338.0	328.0
BHW	524.0	524.5
CEMITE-VER	0	120.0
COMMERZB	231.5	227.5
CONTI GUMM	235.5	234.7
DATMER BEN	694.0	694.0
DEUTSC BANK	428.0	426.8
DLW	327.0	323.0
DRESNER B	248.5	246.8
ET BARBOS	156.5	153.5
SEAL INDEX	54.44	54.76
GOLDSTEIN	238.0	237.0
GLUTENOFF	0	0
HARPENR	397.0	392.5
HOECHST AG	255.9	253.5
HOESCH	106.8	106.1
HORTEN	182.5	174.0
HUSSEL HD	421.0	428.8
KALI SALZ	143.2	143.8
KARSTADT	419.0	421.5
KAUFHOFF	366.0	368.1
KLOECK W	104.0	95.0
KLOECK W	0	67.5
LIFFE	573.0	571.0
LUFTHANSA	153.0	147.5
MAN	154.5	153.0
MANHESMAN	118.8	118.8
MERCEDES	549.0	549.0
METALLGES	235.0	226.5
NORDRUF PF	560.5	560.0
NORSK HYD	46.80	46.60
PHILIP KON	643.5	650.5
PORSCHE	471.0	477.0
PREUSSAG	126.0	127.0
RAI	196.0	195.5
RHEIN	205.5	203.0
RHEIN P	199.3	198.8
RHEINMETAL	257.0	255.0
SALAMANDER	267.0	269.0
SCHERING	463.0	456.0
SEL	313.0	314.0
SIDWENS	383.0	377.5
THYSEN	123.8	123.6
VARIA	250.0	253.5
VERA	257.5	255.6
VEV	162.6	163.0
VOLKSWAGEN	246.7	246.0

HONG KONG

STOCK	LAST PR.	CLOSE
C H TUNNEL	14.10	14.00
CHEUNG K	7.20	7.20
CHINA GAS	15.80	16.00
CHINA L-P	18.20	18.40
CHINA MOTOR	18.00	17.70
COSMO PROP	4.30	4.30
EVERGO IND	.32	.32
FAR EAST C	.72	.72
GEN ORIENT	0	44.00
H S DEVELOP	8.60	8.55
H S INDEX	470.40	474.38
HANG LUNG	4.70	4.72
HANG SUNG	30.75	30.25
HAN PAR BR	0	21.00
HK ELEC CO	7.85	7.90
HK KOWLOON	6.75	6.50
HK LAND CO	7.55	7.60
HK SHAN BK	7.25	7.30
HK SHAN HT	3.92	3.87
HK TELE CO	7.20	7.25
HUTCH WHAM	8.20	8.25
IND EQ PAC	7.90	8.00
JARDINE M	11.50	11.40
KOMLOON M	11.00	11.00
NEW WORLD	8.60	8.40
PAUL Y CON	1.67	1.68
REALTY DEV	5.45	5.30
S H K CO	1.78	1.73
S H K PROP	9.40	9.40
SHE DABY	1.48	1.48
STELLUM MFG	5.45	5.40
SURE PAC	16.40	16.40
T V B CO	13.70	13.90
TAT CHEUNG	3.27	3.20
UNION BANK	1.58	1.58
WOCK MARD	0	7.25
WOCK MARI	0	1.15
WORLD INTL	2.92	2.95

TOKYO

STOCK	LAST PR.	CLOSE
AJINOMOTO	3360	3340
AKAI ELEC	529	539
AKI	1000	990
ASAHI GAS	1920	1940
ASAHI OPT	595	598
BANK TOKYO	1510	1520
BRIDGESTON	1410	1410
CANON	1170	1170
CASIO COMP	1330	1320
CHUGAI MFG	0	0
CITIZEN W	643	640
D-ICHI KAN	3210	3210
DAI NIP KX	803	795
DAI NIP PT	2580	2570
DAI NIP SC	972	973
DAI NIP TO	485	480
DAI NIP TO	805	802
DANBA H	2700	2710
DANBA SEC	2700	2710
EBRA MFG	870	860
ETSAI	2490	2530
FUJITSU	1540	1530
FUJITSU	3470	3470
FUJITSU	4300	4210
FUJITSU	2090	2070
FUJITSU	740	730
HITACHI	1380	1360
HONDA MOT	1640	1590
ISSETAN	1400	1400
ITO YOKADA	4110	4120
JAP SUN RU	1040	1060
JAPAN AIR	15900	16100
JAPAN MET.	472	478
KAJIMA	1550	1550
KANSAI EL	3050	3060
KAO SOAP	1960	1960
KAWASAKI H	342	338
KAWASAKI S	381	385
KIRIN BREW	2380	2390
KOMATSU	638	630
KUBOTA LTD	704	703
KYOCERA	5600	5500
NAKITA EL	1860	1860
NARU	3020	3020
MATSUTA EI	2520	2440
MATSUTA EL	2490	2440
MEIJI SEIK	968	970
MITSUBI	1260	1270
MITSUBI EL	661	664
MITSUBI EST	2230	2240
MITSUBI HYV	657	651
MITSUBI CO	778	784
MITSUBISHI	1560	1560
MITSUBISHI	1270	1270
NICHICON	1330	1370
NINON CHMT	873	868
NIKKO SEC	2050	2070
NIP ELEC	2140	2100
NIP KKKAN	380	376
NIP OIL	1240	1230
NIP STEEL	441	443
NIP YUSEN	587	593
NIS MOTOR	905	905
NOMURA SEC	3910	3930
ONDA CO	990	1000
ONYX	1160	1140
ONYX	873	878
PIONEER	3300	3190
REKONAN	840	844
RICHON	1270	1260
SANKYO	2250	2270
SANYO ELEC	530	528
SEIKU ST	2430	2550
SEIKU PB	1910	1940
SHARP	1020	1010
SHISEIDO	1700	1730
SONY	5270	5160
SUMITOMO	1110	1120
TATSEI	950	952
TATSEI MRM	1190	1190
TAKEDA CH	3270	3260
TEIJI	817	821
TOKI NEW IX	107.98	109.17
TOKIO MRM	2090	2100
TOKYO ELEC	1180	1170
TOKYO GAS	1180	1200
TOKYO POAR	5950	6000
TORAY IND	806	801
TOSHIBA EL	750	753
TOTO	2320	2350
TOYO KKKGY	451	455
TOYOTA MOT	2420	2390
YAMAHA	1220	1220
YAMATCHI	2050	2050
YAMAZAKI	1480	1480

Tokyo Stock Market Report

TOKYO STOCKS CLOSE MIXED IN ACTIVE TRADE. TOKYO, MARCH 7, REUTER - SHARE PRICES CLOSED MIXED DUE TO PROFIT-TAKING ON RECENT GAINS TEMPERED BY INTEREST IN BLUE CHIP AND HIGH-TECH ISSUES, BROKERS SAID.

"THE INDEX IS BACK AT PRE-CRASH LEVELS AND A LOT OF TOKKIN (SPECIAL MONEY TRUSTS) CLOSE THEIR BOOKS AROUND THE 20TH," SAID TORANOBU SUGAI, VICE PRESIDENT OF EQUITIES AT SHEARSON LEHMAN BROS ASIA. "WE ARE AT A DIFFICULT STAGE."

THE NIKKEI INDEX LOST 10.99 POINTS, OR 0.4 PCT, TO 25,616.58. IT ROSE 11.95 POINTS IN HALF-DAY TRADING ON SATURDAY. RISES ALMOST MATCHED FALLS IN TURNOVER OF 850 MLN SHARES AGAINST 950 MLN. THE LOWEST VOLUME SINCE FEBRUARY 23.

RETAIL, SECURITIES HOUSE, RAILWAY/BUS, PHARMACEUTICAL, AIRLINE, RUBBER, REAL ESTATE, BANK, NON-LIFE INSURANCE AND GAS SHARES DECLINED.

COMMUNICATIONS, ELECTRONIC, WAREHOUSE, MINING, AUTO, OIL AND PRECISION INSTRUMENTS ADVANCED.

THE TOP 10 TRADED ISSUES IN MORNING TRADE WERE CENTERED ON STEEL SHARES, AND SOME HEAVY MACHINERY STOCK, BROKERS SAID, BUT INTEREST WAS LAGGING IN THE AFTERNOON.

NIPPON KOKAN, A LEADING STEELMAKER, CLOSED UP FOUR YEN TO 380, A NEW HIGH, BUT KAWASAKI STEEL LOST FOUR TO 381, NISSEIN STEEL TRIPLE TO 743 AND NIPPON STEEL TWO TO 441.

ALSO TRADED HEAVILY WERE ISHIKAWA-JIMARU HEAVY INDUSTRIES, WHICH CLOSED DOWN FIVE TO 780, AND KAWASAKI HEAVY INDUSTRIES, WHICH ROSE FOUR TO 342.

OTHER LARGE CAPITAL ISSUES WERE GENERALLY WEAKER, BROKERS SAID. NIPPON TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE (NTT) CLOSED DOWN 10,000 YEN TO 2.45, TOKYO ELECTRIC POWER 50 TO 5.90 AND TOKYO GAS 20 TO 1.80.

ENERGY TO SUSTAIN THESE ISSUES' STRENGTH IS DOWN, BROKERS SAID, DUE TO AN ABSENCE OF FRESH FACTORS.

CONCERN OVER THE END OF THE FISCAL YEAR ON MARCH 31 IS ALSO SIDELINING SOME INVESTORS.

Hong Kong Market Report

HONG KONG, MARCH 7, REUTER - SHARE PRICES CLOSED NARROWLY MIXED AS A ROUND OF LATE PROFIT-TAKING ERODED THE MORNING'S GAINS, BROKERS SAID.

THE HANG SENG INDEX ENDED 1.98 POINTS LOWER AT 2,470.40, AFTER CLIMBING MORE THAN 20 POINTS IN THE MORNING, BUT THE HONG KONG INDEX ADDED 0.18 POINTS TO 1,619.44. TURNOVER WAS 966.37 MLN H.K. DLRS, AGAINST 779.45 MLN ON FRIDAY.

A BROKER WITH A U.K. TRADE HOUSE SAID THERE WAS SUBSTANTIAL RESISTANCE WHEN THE INDEX APPROACHED THE KEY 2,500 LEVEL. "THE MARKET NEEDS A BIT MORE TIME TO ABSORB ITS RECENT GAINS BEFORE A FURTHER RALLY," HE SAID.

AMMAN

OPNG	CLSG
AL HIMME MINERALS	0.79 0.79
AL-NISER EXCHANGE	0.89 0.90
ALA-ADDIN COMPANY	1.40 1.44
ARAB ALUMINUM IND.	1.91 1.91
ARAB BANK	117.2 116.6
ARAB CHEMICAL DTR	4.60 4.60
ARAB FINANCE CORP.	1.47 1.48
ARAB INSURANCE	1.00 0.92
ARAB INT. INV/TRAN.	1.00 0.95
ARAB INT. UNION INS	0.95 0.96
ARAB INTER. HOTELS	0.53 0.58
ARAB JOR INVST/BK	2.10 2.12
ARAB PAPER CO/TRD	0.35 0.36
ARAB PHARMA/MNF.	2.10 2.11
ARAB PHARMA/CHM	0.78 0.79
ARABIAN SEAS INS.	1.65 1.65
BANK OF JORDAN	16.31 16.32
BEIJING INSURANCE	1.00 0.95
CAROT AMMAN BANK	30.00 30.00
DAR AL SHAAB PRESS	0.41 0.42
DAR ALDAHA DV/INV.	1.51 1.53
DARCO/INVEST/HOVS.	0.44 0.46
DEVELOP/INVEST/FFS.	0.62 0.62
FINANCE/CREDIT/COF	0.60 0.58
GENERAL INSURANCE	2.39 2.63
GENERAL INVESTMENT	1.33 1.34
GENERAL MINING	1.50 1.50
HOLY LAND INS.	1.15 1.20
IND./WATCH JEMCO	0.74 0.74
INDSTRIL DEVLPT BNC	1.31 1.31
INDSTRIL/COM/AGR.	1.49 1.48
INDUSTRIAL INVEST	1.53 1.54
INTERMED/PETRO/CH	0.64 0.64
INTERN. COM/INV	0.96 0.96
IRBID ELECTRICITY	0.64 0.64
ISLAMIC INV. HOUSE	3.50 3.20
J.PRESS FOUNDATION	1.28 1.28
JERUSALEM INS.	13.50 13.55
JO TABACCO/CIGARET	1.06 1.08
JOR CEMENT FACT.	1.05 1.06
JOR CERAMIC FACTOR	25.01 25.05
JOR EAGLE INS.	1.48 1.47
JOR ELECTRIC POWER	1.18 1.20
JOR FINANCE HOUSE	1.03 1.04
JOR GLASS INDUSTRY	2.50 2.50
JOR HOTEL TOURISM	1.74 1.75
JOR INDUSTRY CHEM.	1.20 1.20
JOR INS AND FIN.	1.20 1.20
JOR LIME AND BRICK	0.27 0.30
JOR MANAG/CONSULT	2.43 2.44
JOR NATIONAL BANK	3.03 3.07
JOR PAPER CARDBRGG	2.40 2.39
JOR PHOSPHATE MINS	1.18 1.19
JOR PIPES MANUFACT.	2.05 2.00
JOR PRESS/PUBLISH.	3.00 3.65
JOR PRINTING/PACK.	0.6

BUSINESS

Stock markets mixed

Sterling soars and dollar steady

LONDON, March 7, (Reuters): Britain's pound sterling soared today as currency traders, unsure whether to buy or sell dollars, decided to park funds in relatively high interest rate British bank accounts.

Stock markets were mixed. Wall Street shares opened with the Dow Jones industrial average down 1.16 points at 2,056.70.

Jumped

Oil prices, meanwhile, fell back to around the 16-month traded lows seen in Europe last week following renewed concern of fresh discounts being offered by some members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries. Widely traded British North Sea Brent crude, for March delivery was being quoted at just above \$13.75 a barrel in mid-afternoon.

On currency markets, the pound jumped to more than 3.04 marks and almost \$1.81 despite further intervention today by the

Bank of England, which sold the British currency last week in a bid to keep its value below three West German marks. The pound had closed on Friday at 2.9986 marks and \$1.77.

The market is now saying "let's see where the new upside is," a London dealer said.

The dollar itself eased to trade just above 1.68 marks and 128 Japanese yen by mid-afternoon. It had closed on Friday at 1.6890 marks and 128.70 yen.

The price of gold was fixed in London this morning at \$436 an ounce, up \$7.55.

Prospects

With few clear signals on which market to play and which view to take on global economic prospects, the high interest rates paid on British bank deposits and bonds are looking attractive, dealers said.

But the money pouring in, by pushing up the pound, risks pric-

ing British goods off foreign markets.

By mid-afternoon, London's FTSE index of 100 blue chip shares had dropped more than one per cent to just below 1,810. It had closed on Friday at 1,834.5.

Many investors seemed unsure about whether the US economy was growing quickly enough to make investments there attractive — or whether it was growing so fast as to risk inflation.

Some gold traders apparently thought so — that, dealers said, was why gold was up so sharply today.

Consumers

And traders in currencies and shares also worried that US consumers were still spending too much on imports. That was bad news for the dollar, even if it suggested that European and Asian firms did not have to worry so much about losing sales

in the United States.

But investors were not yet reassured, dealers said.

In Frankfurt, the 30-share Boersen-Zeitung index closed 1.91 points higher at 292.59, the All-Share Swiss index rose 3.6 points to 854.1 and Madrid's key index ended at a 1988 high of 266.73, up 3.36 points.

Pressure

But other markets were under pressure. Amsterdam's CBS All-Share index was down 0.2 points to 80.1, while Milan's Mib index shed 0.4 per cent and the Paris Bourse indicator closed 0.74 per cent lower.

In Tokyo, the world's largest stock market, the 225-share Nikkei index eased 10.99 points to 25,616.58.

Hong Kong's Hang Seng index slipped 1.98 to 2,470.40 and Singapore's index ended while Sydney's all-ordinaries index rose 25.6 points to 1,324.1.

Goodison to step down at year-end

LONDON, March 7, (Reuters): Sir Nicholas Goodison, chairman of the London Stock Exchange for the past 12 years, said today he would quit his job at the end of this year to head a leading British banking group.

The exchange said Goodison, 54, would join the board of the TSB Group Plc in April and would become its chairman on January 1, 1989.

"I am now happy to move on to pastures new," Goodison said.

"I have been chairman during a period of great innovation and change and now feel that the structure for the future has been built," he said.

Dealers

His departure surprised many share dealers and analysts who said there was no obvious successor to the man who steered the exchange through the sweeping reforms of the "Big Bang", which in 1986 opened the business of dealing in shares to banks and so set off an era of white hot competition on the market.

Goodison became a member of the London Stock Exchange in 1962, having joined the family stockbroking firm H. E. Goodison in 1958. He became LSE chairman in 1976.

On taking office, Goodison was immediately faced with the then Labour government's plans to reform the exchange, setting in motion changes that eventually culminated in the Big Bang.

Goodison takes over at TSB — formerly the Trustee Savings Bank — from Sir John Read, who had led the group since 1980 and piloted it through a controversial stock market flotation in 1986.

AMF loan for Jordan

ABU DHABI, Mar 7, (Opecna): Jordan will receive \$3 million loan from the Arab Monetary Fund (AMF) to boost its trade with Arab states.

Under a programme to facilitate inter-Arab trade, AMF is extending loans to member countries.

The agreement was signed in Amman by AMF director general Dr Abdulla Al Quwaiz and Jordanian Minister of Finance Hana Awad.

Halifax moves into Jersey

New international account launched

HALIFAX Building Society has opened a branch office in St Helier, Jersey in response to strong demand from its overseas customers for an international home for their investments.

The Halifax chose Jersey as a base as it is one of the most highly reputable financial centres in the world. It is geographically close to the UK, which is attractive to British expatriates. It operates within the UK banking system and is part of the sterling area.

Investment

To coincide with the move into Jersey the Society has introduced a new investment account, developed exclusively for non-residents and available only through the Jersey branch.

The main features of the new account, called Halifax Deposit International, are as follows:

- interest paid gross — no tax is deducted
- higher interest for larger balances
- interest rates adjusted automatically as balances change
- interest paid, or capitalised, half-yearly
- immediate, penalty-free, withdrawals
- internal and external standing orders

Contact

The minimum investment in the Halifax Deposit International is £1,000 and it is only available to individuals who are not ordinarily resident in the UK.

Existing non-resident investors with the Halifax wishing to keep their current arrangements may do so, or even hold a Halifax

Deposit International account in Jersey and retain other gross interest accounts at UK branches.

The Jersey operation will be managed by John Panter, formerly director and general manager of Westpac (CI) Ltd — one of Westpac Banking Corporation's Jersey subsidiaries. The office will act exclusively as the point of contact for Halifax investors world-wide, and will not therefore have a "high street" presence.

Mike Fearnside, general manager marketing, explains that:

"This new development means that we are able to offer our non-resident clients even greater choice, combined with the high degree of safety and security synonymous with a Halifax investment."

Turkish trade chief sees bright export future

THE outlook for Turkey's exports is good, despite problems with protectionism in the US, the foreign trade chief in Ankara says. Namik Kemal Kilic, deputy undersecretary for trade, is displaying the same entrepreneurial spirit in his new job as he did in his old one, as head of the State Planning Organisation's foreign investment department, according to MEED.

The government expects exports to increase to \$12,300 million this year, 22.3 per cent up on 1987. Imports will remain at around \$14,000 million.

The optimistic forecast is based partly on performance in 1987, when, in the autumn, monthly exports broke the \$1,000 million barrier for the first time.

Growth is now industry-led, in contrast to the situation before 1980, when agriculture dominated sales.

Industry's share of exports continues to expand — 80 per cent of exports in 1987 were industrial goods, Kilic says; agriculture's value remains around the same

as it was eight years ago.

Turkey is relying increasingly on Europe as exports to the Middle East have declined: around 40 per cent of sales go to EEC countries.

The US is clamping down on imports, but the Soviet Union is opening up, although sales are still tied to Turkish purchases of Soviet natural gas.

With the process of perestroika (restructuring) going ahead in Moscow, state procurement programmes have been decentralised and each Soviet republic will be able to buy and sell independent of central government.

Kilic points out that Turkish-speaking peoples with similar cultures predominate in about three of the republics.

Deal

Three kinds of firms deal with Turkish exports: holding companies, incorporate foreign trade companies and producer-export companies. In the past, the government has given the incorporated firms special privileges.

It will now try to bring on

producer-export types, to build a bridge between markets and producers, Kilic says.

The export drive is to be intensified this year, although the government has no intention of increasing export incentives. The policy is instead to dampen domestic demand and force companies to export their surplus.

Tax rebate export incentives will be phased out next year in accordance with the provisions of Turkey's General Agreement on Tariffs & Trade (GATT) subsidy quota, Kilic says. These will be replaced gradually over the next two years by the recently formed Export Credit Bank of Turkey (Eximbank), which starts operating in April.

Exporters

The institution, which recently signed a DM 200 million (\$117 million) bond deal in the Frankfurt markets, will provide credit to exporters, particularly of capital goods, and some insurance of export credits from banks.

Critics have said the export explosion can be explained by the

practice among some exporters of filling fictitious returns and thus cashing in on the export rebates.

According to Kilic, the proportion cannot be more than 5 per cent of total exports and a recent revision of procedures should eliminate the practice entirely this year.

In the old system, there was a fixed rate for items exported in categories — leather coats, for example.

Now, before the rebates are paid, traders have to claim a percentage of the value of the goods exported and demonstrate the foreign currency earned.

January's sweeping liberalisation of the import regime left only 33 items on the list requiring prior approval. They include drugs and ammunition.

The maximum customs duty is now 50 per cent, with the higher rates levied on luxury consumer goods and as protection for fledgling industries. "This is open protectionism," says Kilic, "compared with the quota system in the US."

Gulf Bank weekly market review

KD slightly firmer

Kuwaiti Dinar

BASED on opening middle market FX rates, the KD exchange rate was stable and traded in a narrow range against US dollar ending the week at 276.33 fils near its week before last closing of 275.99.

Against the pound sterling the KD was slightly easier, ending at 488.41 compared to its week before last closing of 487.40 fils.

The KD finished the week slightly firmer against the Swiss franc at 197.10 fils compared to its previous closing at 198.06 fils. As against the Jordanian dinar the KD ended at 802.70 fils near its week before last closing of 802.41 fils. The KD was mostly unchanged against other foreign currencies and the GCC currencies.

US dollar

The US dollar ended the week easier against major currencies, after being confined to a narrow trading range in a quiet market.

Earlier in the week the dollar was little affected by the larger than expected 0.6 per cent drop in January's leading indicators, as the negative impact of the decline was offset by an upward revision in the December figure to a gain of 0.2 per cent and by the supportive remarks of US Treasury Secretary Baker who predicted improvements this year in the US trade balance and stressed that a further drop in the dollar was not a solution to curing the nation's trade problem.

Later in the week the dollar came under pressure from technical factors and a view held by some dealers that signs of a stronger domestic economy were bad for US trade prospects.

Japanese yen

The yen traded against the US dollar in a narrow range of 128-129.55 over the week in a quiet market. The yen ended the week at 128.60/70 yen after having started the week near its previous week's closing level of 128.30/40 yen.

Earlier in the week, the market had shrugged off remarks by Bank of Japan Governor Sumita who told businessmen that he welcomed the US Fed's cautious monetary policy. He also said that the Japanese central bank will maintain its current credit stance.

Pound sterling

With the lack of activity in the US dollar, attention was focused last week on the pound which once again was bolstered by higher UK interest rates.

Earlier in the week, the pound shrugged off the negative implications of a larger than expected trade deficit of £1.50 billion in Jan, compared to a deficit of 1.01 billion in Dec. The pound ended the week at \$1.7745/52 near its opening level of \$1.7730/40, and above its previous week's closing rate of \$1.7710/20.

Deutsche mark

The mark ended the week higher at 1.6883/93

marks after opening at 1.6900/10 marks, and near its week before last closing of 1.6890/00 marks. It remained confined to the relatively narrow trading range of 1.6800 to 1.7000 marks that has prevailed in recent weeks.

Although the DM has undergone a 10 per cent retracement to its early November level of 1.72 per dollar, since reaching a record high of 1.56 on Jan 4, many analysts expect renewed gains against the dollar and some other European Monetary System currencies around the middle of the year.

French franc

Last week, the French franc traded in a narrow range against the US dollar. It opened the week at FFR 5.7220/50, and closed higher at FFR 5.7135/65 compared to its week before last closing of FFR 5.7190/20.

Swiss franc

The Swiss franc also traded in a narrow range against the US dollar. It opened the week at SFR 1.3935/45 but closed lower at SFR 1.3985/95, compared to its week before last closing of SFR 1.3895/08.

Stock markets

After opening the week stronger due to arbitrage related buy programs, Wall Street stock prices weakened later on concern that a surprisingly strong rise in February employment could interfere with the recent downward trend in interest rates. The Dow Jones Industrial Average opened the week at 2071 and closed at 2058, gaining 35 points over the week before last closing at 2023. Share prices on the London Stock Exchange improved last week on continued optimism about the forthcoming UK budget on March 15. Apart from the hopes that the UK Chancellor of the exchequer will announce substantial tax reductions in his budget, the market was also being underpinned by fading worries over another near term rise in interest rates.

Precious metals

Gold Gold bullion prices opened the week at a low of \$424.90/425.40 and ended higher at \$436/436.50 showing a gain of \$4.50 over the previous week's closing level of \$431.50/432.

Silver Silver bullion prices opened the week at \$6.12/6.14 and closed higher at \$6.46/6.48 recording a gain of 25 cents over the previous week's closing of \$6.21/6.23.

Oil prices

Oil prices fell sharply last week in the world markets. Spot prices for North Sea Brent crude were between \$13.75-14.50 range compared with \$15.30-15.40 range recorded the week before last. Prices for April cargoes fell sharply too reaching \$14.25-15.15 range compared with \$15.85 recorded the week before last.

Turkey's foreign debt soars

ISTANBUL, March 7, (Reuters): Turkey's foreign debt soared by about \$6 billion in 1987 but officials said today that the country had no trouble arranging new loans.

Central Bank General Secretary Ercan Kumcu said agreements for \$280 million in credits would be signed this week in Frankfurt and London.

The left-wing Cumhuriyet newspaper said Turkey's foreign debt stood at \$37.29 billion at the end of 1987, up from \$31.23 billion a year earlier.

Officials said the figures, sourced to the undersecretariat for the treasury and foreign trade, were unofficial but were in the right range.

Difficulty

Cumhuriyet said Turkey might have difficulty finding the \$7.2 billion needed to service the debt in 1988, but noted that it had met all its obligations since a major rescheduling in 1980.

Kumcu told Reuters that European and American banks had snapped up a Central Bank seven-year, 300 million mark (\$180 million) bond to be signed for in Frankfurt on Thursday.

"The issue was sold within a day. The market is pretty good for us in Germany," he said.

Investment seminar for expats

MALCOLM Doney Associates, well-known UK based investment advisers, are holding a seminar in the ballroom of the SAS Hotel on Saturday at 7.00 p.m.

Colin Paddon, who will be leading the seminar, says that he will be dealing with all aspects of the UK expatriates' investment concerns, including taxation, pension planning and savings schemes designed to take advantage of your offshore status.

Malcolm Doney Associates are members of FIMBRA and as authorised financial advisers offer their clients guaranteed protection via a UK government controlled indemnity fund. All are welcome to attend.

steady in moderate trading after opening mixed. The All-Share Swiss index rose 3.6 to 854.1.

PARIS: Prices opened the main floor session lower in very quiet trading.

LONDON: Prices were at the day's lows at mid-session after a cautiously mixed start to the new two-week account. At 1247 GMT the FTSE 100 index was down 16.5 at 1,818.0.

NEW YORK: Stocks were mixed at the opening bell.

WORLD STOCK ROUNDUP

gains. The Hang Seng index ended 1.98 points lower at 2,470.40.

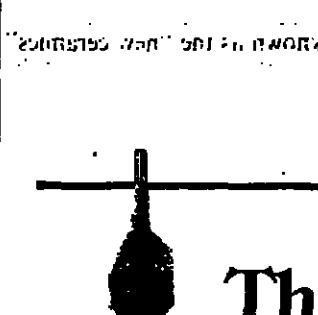
SINGAPORE: The market closed lower across the board on bouts of profit-taking after recent gains in lacklustre trading. The Straits Times industrial index fell 4.86 to 915.74.

BOMBAY: Prices weakened, with continuing curbs on for-

ward purchases and sales depressing sentiment. Tata Steel fell 6.25 rupees to 593.75.

FRANKFURT: Prices ended a quiet bourse mostly firmer, helped by technical support and continuing favourable sentiment. The Commerzbank index, calculated at mid-session, rose five to 1,393.7.

ZURICH: Shares closed



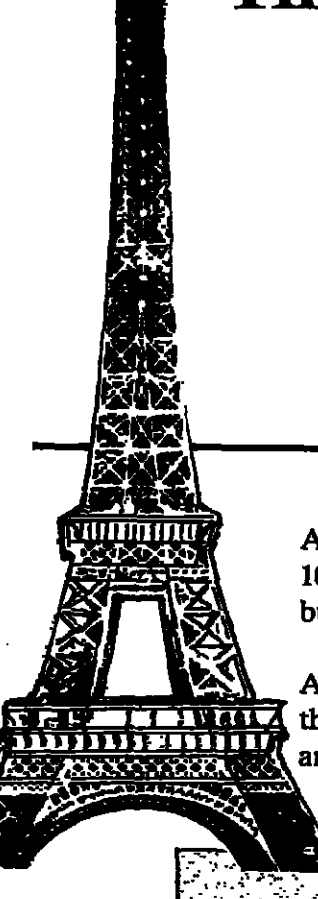
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SYDNEY, March 7, (Reuters): Shares ended sharply higher with sentiment boosted by strong gains in international gold prices and offshore interest. The All Ordinaries index ended 25.6 points up at 1,324.1.

TOKYO: Share prices closed mixed on profit-taking tempered by interest in blue chip and high-tech issues. The Nikkei index lost 10.99 points to 25,616.58.

HONG KONG: Prices closed narrowly mixed as a round of late profit-taking eroded morning

A plea for tolerance in art

By Michael Stott

COLOGNE, West Germany. (Reuters) Peter Ludwig, Germany's foremost art patron, is an unlikely hate figure.

A tall smiling man who earned his fortune from a chocolate empire, Ludwig has showered money, gifts and loans on 27 museums in West and East Germany, Austria and Switzerland. He won wide respect for his early backing of contemporary artists like Andy Warhol, Joseph Beuys and Anselm Kiefer.

But trouble began in the early 1980s when Ludwig started touring East Germany and the Soviet Union, buying up hundreds of paintings by officially-approved artists, saying there was nothing wrong with state art.

And when he said Nazi art should be brought out of the museum vaults where it now lingers and put on public display, the trickle of discontent turned into a flood of abuse.

Commentator Klaus Staack, writing in the weekly Die Zeit in 1986, was alarmed by Ludwig's engagement in cultural politics.

"It is not just a question of the vanity bonus implicit in art, to which the Ludwig family have a claim. What we are seeing is an increasingly strong — and totally undemocratic — demand for power in the wider cultural sphere," he wrote. "Ludwig's demand for the inclusion of Nazi art in our museums is only the latest example of a series of such outrageous propositions."

Ludwig's commission to Arno Breker, one of Hitler's favourite artists, to sculpt a bust of him and his wife was the last straw for critics.

"He not only throws doubt on his own understanding of art, but also indirectly compromises his colleagues when he stoops to do business with the dreary, Nazi beneficiary Arno Breker," Der Spiegel Magazine wrote.

Ludwig has now been accused of dictating German artistic taste, of Nazi sympathies, and even of favouring over communist East bloc leaders to boost his company's chocolate sales there — allegations he vigorously rejects.

"The basis of mine and my wife's collection is to close gaps in understanding," Ludwig, 62, said during an interview at the Cologne museum that bears his name.

"We don't want to rape visitors with our opinions. We just want everyone to have the chance to make up their own mind."

Ludwig's love of art was inherited from his parents in the family home at Koblenz on the River Rhine. While studying art history at Mainz University, he married fellow student Irena Monheim. Buoyed by the revenues of the Ludwig chocolate concern, they began to collect.

Their first purchases were conservative: ancient pottery, illuminated manuscripts, pre-Columbian figures, and porcelain. Then, in the 1960s, they travelled to New York and 'discovered' the nascent pop art movement.

Ludwig's early backing for pop art and subsequent championing of contemporary German art won him a good deal of critical respect. But he is equally

Should politics be separated from art? Peter Ludwig, Germany's foremost art patron draws ire from critics by patronising state art from the East bloc countries as well as works from the Nazi era.



Controversial West German art collector Peter Ludwig stands behind 'Consciousness', a figure by German sculptor A.R. Penck, in his Cologne museum.

proud of his later enthusiasm for art behind the Iron Curtain.

It was ridiculous, he said, that no Western museum showed a proper selection of Eastern bloc art.

"The idea that state art is itself inadmissible is quite absurd — if that were the case, then you could forget most of art history," he growled, thumping his desk.

Ludwig pointed to the enormous Florid Gothic structure of Cologne cathedral, towering up behind his showpiece museum.

"We have only had free art since the middle of the last century," he said. "This cathedral was not built by free artists but by the Catholic church."

"Not showing official communist art is a type of censorship — the opposite of what I understand by a free society."

Ludwig's large-scale purchases of official East Bloc art also drew official fire.

Sacked

Karl Ruhrberg, sacked as director of the Cologne Ludwig museum in 1984, said that towards the end of his period of office: "I often wept when I thought what sort of quality works one could have got for the price of some of Ludwig's mass purchases."

Ludwig's attitude towards art from the Nazi period — still considered unacceptable for public display in West Germany — is equally straightforward.

"The whole concept of Nazi art is absurd," he insisted. "Hitler only ruled in Germany

for 12 years and six years of that was war. He couldn't have created any new art in that time... there just weren't artists who could be trained to his ideas in such a short time."

What the Nazis did do, he added, was to choose from the art of that period works they thought came closest to their ideas.

One of those favoured personally by Hitler was Breker, now despised by the art establishment but the recipient of Ludwig's controversial commission.

"The much-maligned Breker was one of the great hopes of German sculpture in the 1930s," Ludwig said with passion.

Hitler found him wonderful and gave him all kinds of commissions... but Breker was not a Nazi artist, there is absolutely no evidence that he ever wrote any propaganda articles or supported the Nazi party programme."

All he wanted, he said, was to give people the information they needed to make up their own minds.

"The evil Nazi propaganda director Joseph Goebbels always exhibited the art he despised. Dreadful behaviour to be sure, but we haven't even dared to do that in 40 years."

"I'm not a fan of Nazi art... in my entire collection I have not a single work from that period. I just think we should be independent-minded. What I hate is prejudice: all communists are devils, or nothing from the Hitler period is worth seeing. That is simply untenable."

'Perestroika, glasnost' selling well

Free enterprise thrives in Moscow's art market

By Susan Smith

MOSCOW, (Reuters) You can buy everything from oil paintings to buttons saying 'perestroika' — yes — at Moscow's outdoor art market, where the snowy paths are as crowded as a Western department store during a clearance sale.

Every weekend, scores of salespeople at Izmailovo park on the outskirts of Moscow offer paintings, wood carvings and lacquered boxes, as well as cheap jewellery, plastic puppets, candles, tea cosies, knitted mittens and elastic headbands.

"Everybody should have one of these," barked one of the men with a fistful of 'perestroika' — yes, buttons in one hand and a fistful of roubles in the other.

The buttons, selling for one rouble (1.60 dollars) each, refer to the catchword for Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's economic reforms.

Juice glasses with the words 'glasnost' (openness) and 'perestroika' engraved on them were also selling well.

The sellers set up tables along icy paths in the park, and prices are often written in the snow. Blaring radios and food vendors selling pork on skewers and sugary pastries create almost a carnival atmosphere for the thousands of Muscovites who flock to the park, even in sub-zero temperatures. Souvenirs of the songster-



Buyers look for bargains in freezing temperatures in Moscow's outdoor market.

poet Vladimir Vysotsky, who died in 1980, are big sellers. Ceramic busts of Vysotsky sit lopsidedly on snowbanks while Vysotsky pins decorate jewellery tables and pen-and-ink Vysotsky portraits hang from the trees.

Every loved Vysotsky for years but the immediate reason for the souvenir-selling is the recent 50th anniversary of his birth and official recognition of

his contribution to Soviet culture.

His records may still be difficult to buy in the stores but the arts and crafts salesmen at Izmailovo have been able to capitalise on a trend nonetheless.

The art market, not yet a year old, has developed into a trendy outdoor souvenir and gift shop. It opened at Izmailovo park last spring with the official blessing

of authorities. The market's activities were further encouraged by a change in the laws allowing a limited degree of free enterprise.

East art markets have operated illegally and have been closed by bulldozers that smashed paintings into the ground.

In line with yet another Gorbachev crusade, the anti-alcohol campaign, one man on a

recent Saturday was selling breadboards with pictures of ugly red-nosed drunks painted on them.

Political dissidents also sell art at the fair. One Moscow artist, Alexander Kalugin, goes to the market on Sundays to sell etchings to benefit two dissident magazines, Glasnost and Express Khronika.

His tortured etchings recall life in a mental hospital where he was incarcerated.

More common than political themes are religious themes, which until recently were almost as taboo. Traditional religious artwork — paintings of monasteries and saints — sell alongside trendy items.

One old Russian handicraft — wooden matryoshka (little mother) dolls — sells at Izmailovo for two and three times the price of those at official shops.

"But these are much nicer than the ones in the stores," said Shana, one doll seller, pointing out the elaborate clothing and jewels painted on one doll going for 140 roubles (234 dollars).

Shana said she and a group of friends make the dolls in their spare time, then take turns selling them at the market.

They started the project after the law allowing individual enterprise went into effect last May. The only disadvantage, Shana says, is that their profits are taxed.

Leach's pervasive influence on ceramics

Born 100 years ago, when the idea of the artist-craftsman was being formulated, Bernard Leach stands out as the creator of what is known as 'new ceramics'. He died eight years ago but his innovations continue to inspire a new generation.

By Rosemary Hill

THE worldwide influence of Bernard Leach, the British craftsman, in creating what is now known as the "new ceramics" has been considerable over the past century. In Britain it has been all important within the demanding field of pottery design.

But like all those who come to embody a particular movement or period, Leach, who was born 100 years ago, had luck as well as genius. His long life coincided historically with a time when pottery, and indeed all the crafts, were searching for a new direction. He died only eight years ago, living into an era that could hardly have been more different from his boyhood days.

In 1887, industrialisation had made many craft skills redundant and those that remained were dwindling. William Morris was 53 in that year and far advanced in his campaign to revive the

medieval respect for handwork. His company was producing textiles, furniture and wallpaper of great originality and beauty and the Martin brothers were making their strange, distinctive pots. If the idea of the artist-craftsman as we know it today was not yet born, it was conceived.

Renaissance

But for Morris it was beset by contradictions. The fact that the artist-craftsman had to be, in effect, a gentleman craftsman and that work produced by hand in an industrial society was beyond the financial means of the majority, went against his principles. The guilds of the Middle Ages could never really be recreated. His was a vision of the future based too closely on the past, a view that was defeated, on a practical level, by the problems of class.

Leach was a less complicated man than Morris, but his genius was to grasp a single idea and to pursue it singlemindedly for the



Bernard Leach: had luck as well as genius

rest of his life. He saw that what the Renaissance had done for the artist, the Industrial Revolution had done for the craftsman. It had

pushed him from the position of a tradesman into a privileged role where he was valued for his individual creativity as well as his practical skill.

In future he would be poised — rather uncomfortably at times — somewhere between the artist and the artisan. Leach formulated the idea of the artist-craftsman. Most importantly, he established the existence of this strange being simply by being one himself.

Colleagues, pupils and other contemporaries, William Staite Murray, Michael Cardew and Katherine Pleydell-Bouverie, did the same and produced work as good, and in some cases better than Leach's. But it was he who led the intellectual battle, travelling, writing, lecturing and creating in an energetic pursuit of his idea, until it became a reality.

In "Beyond East and West," a collection of essays and memoirs, Leach recalls with characteristic understatement the time he took the first crucial step that determined his future course. After a brief period as a banker, conforming to his father's wishes, he resumed his art school studies. In 1909 he was learning etching with Frank Brangwyn and records simply: "He tells me to go to nature — I go to Japan."

The influence of the Orient, a craft-based society whose philosophy was as attractive to him as its aesthetics, provided the support needed to secure the precarious position of the artist-craftsman. His long career saw the steady, if not always easy, consolidation of that role. A colossus astride East and West, he became a dominating force in ceramics.

Treasures of Topkapi on show in the UK

Ottoman opulence

By Robin Simon

THE name of Suleyman, who masterminded the staggering expansion of the Ottoman Empire in the 16th century, still sends shivers down the spines of people in the West.

But, according to Michael Rogers, the British Museum's Keeper of Oriental Antiquities, he was "no more unpleasant than his European contemporaries who included such cultivated thugs as Henry VIII."

If you are going to be moral about it, Henry VIII and Francis I were far worse than Suleyman," says Dr Rogers. "I hope this exhibition will show that the Ottoman Court was the equal of anything in Italy, France or Britain at the time."

It does that effortlessly, although it still seems chillingly appropriate that one of the first things you see is Suleyman's own sword. It is set with ivory, gold, rubies and turquoise, and decorated with intricate gilded animals and foliage.

War was rather like going shooting today. The occupation of a gentleman. And Suleyman combined his campaigns with a lot of hunting. He often left his Vizier to carry on with the main campaign," says Dr Rogers.

The sword is just one of the many treasures on loan from the legendary Topkapi Museum in Istanbul, which have never been seen before in

Britain. There are jewelled writing boxes, helmets, silk-covered wicker and steel shields, a huge campaign throne, illuminated manuscripts by the greatest artists and calligraphers, richly coloured ceramics, book-binding — everywhere jewels, gold, rock crystal, ivory and more jewels.

The Topkapi collection is probably the greatest court collection surviving intact, and some of the most astonishing things are the superb clothes on view. Textiles are notoriously fragile, but the silk kalfans in this exhibition look as fresh as the day they were made four-and-a-half centuries ago.

The reason is a curious one, according to Dr Rogers: "When someone died, his clothes were rolled up and put away — they were always kept in cupboards, and relative humidity remained constant. They survive to a degree unknown to the West."

The best example on show is a full-length silk kalfan in a sumptuous floral pattern with gilt-metal thread — one of the Ottoman textiles woven without a repeat. Its owner, one of Suleyman's own sons, was strangled, a common hazard in Suleyman's court. But his robe was still carefully rolled up and stored.

Such political executions — beheading was also popular — seen almost to have been ritualistic in their impersonality. The exception was

Suleyman's favourite, his Grand Vizier Ibrahim, who had risen from a slave boy to become the second most powerful man in the Empire.

His abrupt execution in 1534 has still not been fully explained, because every trace of Ibrahim was expunged from the Ottoman records.

In its grim romance, it is a tale like those of Ibrahim's English contemporaries, Cardinal Wolsey and Thomas Cromwell, under Henry VIII, whose origins were equally obscure, and whose fall was as sudden.

As with Henry, such events showed that ultimate power remained in Suleyman's hands. And even more than Henry, Suleyman was a "universal man" — the greatest warrior of his day, he was also one of the greatest patrons of the arts of all time.

He was a law-giver and consummate administrator. Trained as a goldsmith, some 2,500 poems said to be by him also survive, of which he actually wrote about half himself.

The exhibition reflects all the many aspects of Suleyman's unimaginably extravagant world. And it is full of reminders of how uncertain life at the top could be.

Where Henry VIII had wives, Suleyman had sons — an interesting irony. And especially tricky since national interests demanded the elimination of superfluous heirs.



Hammering priceless Leonardo into shape

By Knut Pries

LONDON, (Reuters) Eric Harding may use a sledgehammer before embarking on the trickiest job of his career as one of Britain's top restoration experts.

Before laying hands on a priceless Leonardo Da Vinci drawing damaged in a shotgun attack last summer, the head of the British Museum's paper restoration department hopes to obtain important information through a test with the 14-pound (5.7-kg) hammer.

"Exactly how we will proceed can only be decided while work is in progress. But we can simulate the damage by sticking a piece of paper from that period onto a similar canvas and giving it a blow," Harding said before starting work on the project at London's National Gallery in January.

The charcoal and chalk drawing, completed around 1500, depicts the Virgin Mary and Child together with St Anne and John the Baptist. It is one of the jewels of the national gallery.

After being attacked with an ink bottle by a German painter in 1962 it was put on display in its own chamber behind laminated bullet-proof glass.

When 37-year-old ex-soldier Robert Cambridge chose to demonstrate his misgivings about British society last July

by blasting the cartoon with a sawn-off shotgun, the pellets shattered the glass but did not penetrate it.

The shot drove hundreds of glass slivers into the paper, causing a six-inch (15-cm) dent, severe bruising and abrasion of both the surface and the canvas behind it.

Fragments of paper became detached and had to be recovered from the mount at the bottom of the frame. "It has taken quite a battering," the gallery's chief restorer Martin Wyld said.

He consulted conservationists from other museums and institutions, asking for advice how best to repair the affected area marring the drapery on the Virgin's chest.

Careless

"It's a unique form of damage as this cartoon is rather different from others," he explained. "Normally, there is a second layer of paper underneath — the Leonardo is stuck directly to the canvas which complicates matters."

The cartoon consists of eight sheets of linen rag paper pasted together in overlapping joints.

Already damaged through careless handling during the first 250 years or so of its existence, the brittle paper was glued to a flax canvas attached to a crude stretcher.

Restoring a drawing is more complicated than a painting.

"In a painting, you have several strata, which can be removed one by one. With a drawing, whatever is put on top goes into the paper and cannot be taken off in layers," Wyld explained.

He and Harding will therefore exercise the greatest possible restraint during the year-long operation.

A plan dating back to the mid-1960s to remove the paper from the canvas, de-acidify it and give it a new support was reconsidered but discarded.

"That would put the cartoon at too much risk. We would have done it only if it were in acute danger of disintegrating and that is not the case," Wyld said.

"Obviously, in restoration one doesn't take risk unless it is absolutely necessary, so we are going to confine work to the damage itself."

Another method which would have involved cutting out the affected area was dropped for similar reasons.

Instead, Harding will just try to remove the glass particles, straighten the dented canvas, realign all loose fragments of paper and finally do the cosmetic retouches with black and white chalk.

Where pieces are missing, some filling with paper fibre pulp may have to be done. The result is bound to fall short of perfection. "You can never get a perfectly smooth surface in that little bit," Wyld said.

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TOYOTA Cressida, 1981 GL, white colour fully automatic in excellent condition. KD550 cash. Tele. Ahmed, 2445525 after 7 pm. (AT3-41276-3)

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BEDROOM, sofa set, fridge, oven, A.C., dining table, curtains, carpets and many household items in very good condition. Tele. 2610025, 5617902, 2 pm - 5 pm. (AT3-41289-3)

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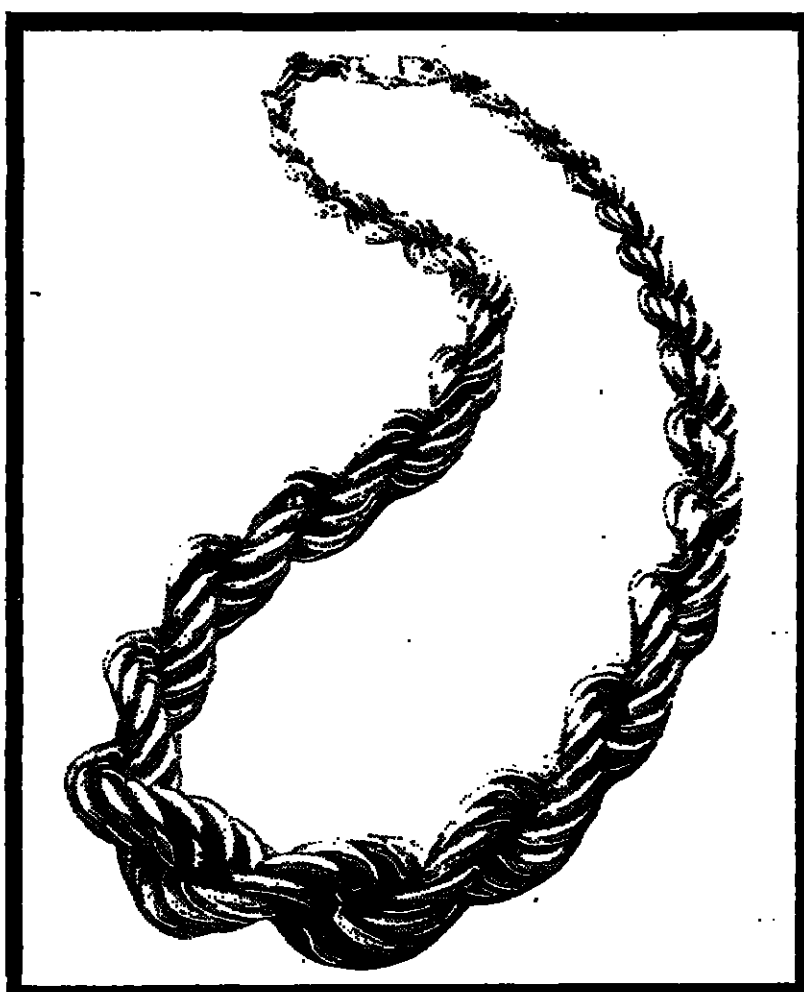
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سوك الواطية

Scott and Worthy take Lakers past Mavericks

DALLAS, March 7, (AP): Byron Scott scored 28 points to lead the Los Angeles Lakers in scoring for the fourth consecutive game as they snapped Dallas' 11-game winning streak yesterday with a 108-97 victory over the Mavericks.

James Worthy scored 23, Kareem Abdul-Jabbar added 20, and Magic Johnson had his eighth triple double of the season with 14 points, 16 assists and 10 rebounds.

Mark Aguirre led Dallas with 27 points, Derek Harper scored 15, and Rolando Blackman added 14.

The defending world champion, who have the best record in the NBA at 47-10, took Dallas out of the game early behind Scott's shooting.

76ers 105, Pacers 100. Albert King made four free throws in the final 13 seconds as Philadelphia defeated Indiana 105-100, snapping their NBA road losing streak at 20 games.

The 76ers, who last won on the road on Dec 23, got a 29-point, 16-rebound performance from Charles Barkley before he fouled out with 1:39 left and Philadelphia protecting a 99-93 advantage.

Indiana's John Long hit what he thought was a 3-pointer, but his foot was inside the line and the Pacers trailed 101-100 with 17 seconds left.

King, who had 10 of his 14 points in the second half, then sank two free throws with 13 seconds remaining and two more with three seconds left.

Celtics 127, Cavaliers 98. Danny Ainge scored 12 of his 21 points in the third period to lead Boston over Cleveland 127-98 as the Cavaliers suffered their 24th consecutive loss at Boston Garden since 1978.

The Celtics lost two starters during the first period. Centre Robert Parish suffered muscle spasms in his lower back just 10 minutes into the game and never returned.

Larry Bird was hit on the left eye by a Dell Curry elbow with 16 seconds left in the opening, and headed to the Celtics' dressing room after finishing the quarter.

Pistons 109, Bucks 99. Bill Laimbeer scored 22 points and Adrian Dantley had nine of his 14 in the fourth quarter as the Detroit Pistons beat the Milwaukee Bucks 109-99.

Milwaukee's John Lucas sank a 3-point basket to tie the game 85-85 with 8:32 left, but Dantley later made a three-point play to start a 16-8 run that gave the Pistons a 105-95 lead with 1:27 left.

Dennis Rodman scored four of his 20 points during the streak. Rodman also had 11 rebounds.

Isiah Thomas added 19 points and 10 assists for Detroit, while Ricky Pierce had 21 points and Jack Sikma 18 for Milwaukee. The Bucks led 32-24 with nine minutes left in the second quarter, but Thomas scored 12 points in the period, including a basket at the buzzer, to give the Pistons a 50-48 halftime edge.

Standings

Eastern Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	41	19	.683	—
Washington	36	24	.600	14-1/2
New York	35	25	.581	15-1/2
Philadelphia	24	36	.400	16
Indiana	29	29	.500	9-1/2
New Jersey	15	42	.263	24-1/2
Central Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Detroit	30	18	.625	—
Atlanta	35	22	.614	3
Chicago	33	25	.569	5-1/2
Milwaukee	31	25	.554	6-1/2
Indiana	29	29	.500	9-1/2
Cleveland	28	31	.475	11
Western Conference	W	L	Pct	GB
Dallas	40	18	.690	—
Denver	36	21	.633	3-1/2
Houston	34	23	.596	5-1/2
Utah	31	26	.544	8-1/2
San Antonio	22	35	.386	16-1/2
Sacramento	17	41	.293	23
Pacific Division	W	L	Pct	GB
LA Lakers	47	10	.825	—
Portland	36	21	.633	11
Seattle	30	29	.508	18
Phoenix	17	40	.298	30
Golden State	14	42	.250	32-1/2
LA Clippers	12	44	.214	34-1/2

Nunn doubtful for Olympics

ADELAIDE, March 7, (Reuters): Glynis Nunn, who took the gold medal in the women's heptathlon at the Los Angeles Olympic games, looks set to miss the Seoul Olympics after suffering back and neck injuries in a car crash.

The Australian's coach John Daly told journalists Nunn had been forced to stop training since the crash two weeks ago when she suffered severe bruising around her spine and neck.

"The accident has had a disastrous effect on her because before we were confident about her making Seoul. She's very depressed about the whole thing," Daly said.

Nunn has dropped the seven-event heptathlon in favour of the 400-metre hurdles. Daly said today a final decision on whether to try for selection in the hurdles would be made after a private time trial on Sunday.

SANCHEZ PUTS UP A FIGHT IN THE FINAL

Becker wins Champions Cup



Becker returns a serve in the third set. (Reuters wirephoto)

INDIAN WELLS, California, March 7, (UPI): Boris Becker of West Germany successfully defended his crown yesterday in the \$702,500 Newsweek Champions Cup, defeating Emilio Sanchez of Spain, 7-5, 6-4, 2-6, 6-4, in a match played in 104-degree (40C) heat.

For the third-seeded Becker, it was his first victory since winning the Queens Cup last June. He received \$136,700 while Sanchez, the No. 8 seed, earned his richest paycheck ever, \$68,350.

Effective Sanchez, who previously upset second seed Miloslav Mecir of Czechoslovakia and No. 4 Pat Cash of Australia, took 3-1 leads in the first two sets. But Becker rallied each time, using a booming serve and an effective volley game.

Sanchez, 22, captured the third set, but Becker recorded the pivotal break in the ninth game of the fourth set, after trailing 40-0, to go ahead 5-4. He then closed out the grueling three-hour match when Sanchez netted a running backhand.

Becker, who had six aces and eight double-faults, won despite committing 37 unforced errors to only 12 for Sanchez. The match was played before a capacity

crowd of 10,500 at the Grand Champions resort, located in the desert about 20 miles east of Palm Springs.

"It was very hot out there," said Becker. "I had to ice my head and my knees at every change. If I didn't, I would have fallen down."

Becker, ranked sixth in the world, dropped just two sets in the tournament in beating John Fitzgerald, Johan Kriek, No. 7 seed Andre Agassi and Sanchez. "In the end my serve was the key," Becker said. "I realise I could serve big on the important points. In the first two sets it wasn't my legs that were tired, it was mental. In the third set I was quite tired, but in the fourth I really pushed myself. I pushed everything I had into it."

Sanchez, ranked 18th in the world, said he entered the match not expecting to win.

"I think the mistake for me was mentally," Sanchez said. "I should think I could beat him, then win the match. I think today I played the kind of match that I have to beat him. But when I broke him in the first two sets, I didn't realise I could beat him, so I was not so eager to beat him. But I never expected to be in the finals."

Cooman speeds to victory

BUDAPEST, March 7, (Reuters): Nellie Cooman of the Netherlands, fastest woman ever over 60 metres, swept to her fourth consecutive European indoor title yesterday in a photo-finish over East Germany's Silke Moeller.

Cooman held off the world outdoor double sprint champion with a last desperate lunge for the line then waited anxiously for the result to be announced.

Eventually the judges confirmed what the photographers clustering around the Dutchwoman had already guessed and Cooman reacted with total delight.

Reached "I was very excited before the final," she said breathlessly. "When I reached the finish, I didn't even know that I had won."

"I have never been so happy about a victory as now," Cooman's time of 7.04 seconds was the fastest in the world this year.

Moeller, who has looked particularly sharp indoors this year, was second in 7.05 and her compatriot and former world outdoor 100 metres champion Marlies Goehr third 0.02 of a second further back.

Britain's Linford Christie

failed in his bid for a unique 60-200 metres double when he managed only third place in the 200.

Nikolai Razgonov of the Soviet Union blazed to victory in 20.62 seconds with Nikolai Antonov of Bulgaria second in 20.65. Christie clocked 20.83 seconds.

World outdoor high hurdles silver medalist Jon Ridgeon of Britain had to settle for second place again in the men's 60 metres hurdles behind Czechoslovak Ales Hoefler. Hoefler clocked 7.56 seconds with Ridgeon 0.01 of a second behind.

But it was not all gloom in the British camp.

David Sharpe upset the formbook with a splendid victory in the men's 800 metres ahead of last year's champion Rob Druppers of the Netherlands.

Sharpe set the early pace, was overhauled by Druppers, but kicked back on the last lap and held off to win in one minute 49.17 seconds. Druppers clocked 1:49.45. Swiss Gert Kilbert was third in 1:49.46 and another Briton, Tony Morrell, second fastest ever indoors over 800, was fourth in 1:49.89.

Bulgaria's peerless women's high jumper Stefka Kostadinova

retained her title with a leap of 2.04 metres.

She then attempted to improve her own world record of 2.06 metres by a centimetre but failed with all three attempts.

Romanian Doina Melinte coasted to victory as expected in the women's 1,500 metres and Spaniard Jose-Luis Gonzalez won the men's 3,000, despite being spiked during the race. The win was Gonzalez's fifth in European Indoor Championships.

East German Jens Carlowitz took advantage of the withdrawal of his teammate and world outdoor champion Thomas Schoenlebe to win the men's 400 metres.

Medals table

Medals table at the end of the two-day European Indoor Athletics Championships (tabulate under gold, silver, bronze)	Gold	Silver	Bronze
East Germany	4	1	4
Soviet Union	3	5	1
Czechoslovakia	3	3	0
Sweden	3	2	4
Netherlands	3	2	2
West Germany	2	3	2
Britain	2	3	2
Spain	1	1	0
Bulgaria	1	1	3
Romania	1	1	0
Poland	1	1	0
Finland	1	0	0
Hungary	0	0	1
Belgium	0	0	1
Switzerland	0	0	1
Italy	0	0	1

Crenshaw sinks birdie putt to clinch Doral Open title

MIAMI, March 7, (Reuters): Ben Crenshaw sank an 18-foot birdie putt on the final hole that capped a brilliant final round for victory at the \$1 million Doral Open golf tournament yesterday.

Crenshaw, who started the day four strokes behind the leader in fourth place, shot a splendid round of six-under-par 66 on "The Blue Monster" course at the Doral Country Club for a total of 14-under-par 274.

"I told my wife this morning," Crenshaw said, "that I wanted to shoot a 66 with 33s on each side and no bogeys. That's exactly what I did."

Crenshaw's 14th career victory was worth \$180,000.

Chip Beck, the winner a week ago in Los Angeles, and Mark McCumber tied for second place just one stroke behind at 275. Raymond Floyd was alone in fourth place at 276.

Bobby Wadkins, who led through the first three rounds and was seeking his first PGA victory in 14 years on the tour, fell apart yesterday. He suffered two double bogeys for a dismal final round of four-over-par 76.

Down the stretch there were several players with a chance to win, but Crenshaw got the birdies he needed at the par-three 15th hole — by making a putt of 14 feet — and at the difficult 18th hole.

King passes Daniel on final hole

KAUAI, Hawaii, March 7, (Reuters): Betsy King passed Beth Daniel with a birdie on the final hole yesterday to win the \$300,000 golf tournament at the Princeville Makai Golf course on the beautiful island of Kauai.

Daniel, the third round leader, missed a shot for par on the 18th hole that would have forced a playoff.

King shot a final round three-under-par 69 for an eight-under-par 280 total. Daniel's final round one-over 73 left her one stroke behind King, alone in second place.

Tammie Green was third at 283 and Japan's Ayako Okamoto finished fourth on an overcast day with on and off drizzle.

Daniel birdied the 11th and 12th to take a four-stroke lead. The turning point came on the 15th when Daniel bogeyed and King birdied to pull back to within one stroke.

"It was not until the last two holes that I realised that I was in the tournament again," said King. "I feel bad for Beth because she really played well this week."

On the par-five 18th, King left herself with a 35-foot putt for eagle and Daniel had to decide whether to go for it in two or lay up.

"It was really Betsy's call," said Daniel. "I was going to do whatever she was going to do," she said.

Daniel hit her three-wood hoping to make it in two, but her ball landed in the water. Her fourth shot was an excellent eight-iron 12-feet from the hole.

King two-putted for a birdie, but Daniel just missed her putt. "I really thought I had made it," said a disappointed Daniel.

Swazi golf

MBABANE, March 7, (Reuters): Don Levin beat fellow-American Alan Pate on the first hole of a sudden death play-off to win the \$75,000 Helix Swazi Sun pro-am tournament today.



Maleeva: was given a tough time

Maleeva overcomes Hanika for crown

WICHITA, Kan., March 7, (Reuters): Top seed Manuela Maleeva of Bulgaria took advantage of Sylvia Hanika's predictable serve yesterday to win a tough battle from the third-seeded West German in the final of the \$100,000 Kansas tennis tournament.

Maleeva's 7-6 7-5 victory gave the top seed her first title of 1988 and kept her record against Hanika perfect. Maleeva, who is now 4-0 against the West German, collected \$17,000 for the win. Hanika earned \$8,500.

Maleeva turned an otherwise even match in her favour at 6-5 in the tiebreak when she ripped a forehand service return down the right side past Hanika to take the opening set.

Maleeva said she expected that

serve to come down the middle.

"I thought she might go to my forehand because she served a lot to my backhand and I thought she might want to try something else."

"For me it was not difficult today to tell where her serve was going by the toss of the ball," said Maleeva. "I knew almost every time where the ball was going."

Hanika thought the second set hinged on calls that went against her. "I hit a couple of big aces and they called them out. I mean, I could have been 4-2 up in the second set," complained Hanika.

Hanika had trouble finding her rhythm after the questionable calls and lost her serve in the 12th and final game on unforced errors.

Mondragon sets record in winning marathon

LOS ANGELES, March 7, (AP): Martin Mondragon of Mexico broke away in the last mile to win the third annual Los Angeles marathon yesterday in a record-shattering time of 2 hours, 10 minutes and 19 seconds.

Mondragon, competing as part of Mexico's Olympic trials, had set the pace since the 20th mile and duelled with Mark Plaatjes, a former South African who has been granted political asylum in the United States.

But Plaatjes dropped off the pace in the 25th mile and was passed in the last 50 metres by Jesus Herrera, also of Mexico.

Mondragon obliterated the old course record of 2:12:59 set in 1986 by Ric Sayer of the United States.

Mondragon also dropped his old personal best of 2:22:22, which had been set at high altitude in Mexico City.

Mondragon's time is the sixth fastest in the world this year, and makes him the No. 2 performer in Mexican history, behind national record holder Rodolfo Gomez.

Herrera finished in 2:10:40, beating Plaatjes by one second. They were followed by a trio of Mexicans, Carlos Retiz, in 2:11:30, Manuel Vera, in 2:13:12, and Alejandro Cruz, in 2:13:14.

Italian national record holder Gianni Poli, who had set the

early pace, faded to seventh in 2:15:54.

Rounding out the top 10 were Filemon Lopez, of Mexico in 2:15:00; Jorge Gonzales, of Mexico, in 2:15:04 and Pedro Ortiz of Puerto Rico, in 2:15:22.

Blanca Jaime of Mexico City took the lead in the women's competition in the last mile and finished in 2:36:10. Magda Rinaldi of Belgium, who had been in the lead through most of the race with Christa Vahlensieck of West Germany, faded to second in 2:36:42. Jillian Costly of New Zealand was third in 2:36:48 and Vahlensieck was fourth in 2:39:29.

Mexico was one of several countries using the 26.2-mile race as its Olympic qualifier. Mexico's Olympic team will not be chosen until other runners have competed in various marathons.

Various More than 16,000 runners entered the competition which began and ended just outside the Los Angeles coliseum and took them through various parts of the city including the famous Sunset and Hollywood boulevards.

Each of the winners received \$25,000 and a Mercedes Benz automobile valued at around \$35,000.

"After running in Mexico City, I felt I had an advantage today," said Mondragon. "I like running at sea level."

Maradona hit by flu as pressure tells on Napoli

ROME, March 7, (Reuters): Diego Maradona's dream of leading Napoli to a second successive Italian First Division title suffered a serious blow yesterday when they were beaten 2-1 at home by Roma — their second home defeat in five days.

On a weekend when the leaders of all the major European leagues re-established their dominance with convincing performances, Napoli collapsed under the strain of defending their title following a minor outbreak of influenza.

Crushed Werder Bremen consolidated their lead in the West German League with a 5-1 home win over Bayern Uerdingen. Real Madrid beat Espanol 2-0 to go seven points clear in Spain. Porto maintained a 24-match unbeaten run in Portugal and Monaco crushed Cannes 4-1.

But Napoli, with Maradona below his best after missing training on Friday because of the flu, failed to recover from the shock of their 3-2 defeat by Torino in the Italian Cup last Wednesday. It was their second League defeat of the season. "It was as if they were playing pinball," said Napoli coach Ottavio Bianchi.

"The ball went to and fro but never went in. Our eagerness to attack at all costs allowed Roma to get at goal with two direct breaks." Bianchi said several players were affected by flu. "It's just a



Maradona: below his best

seasonal problem. When they are ill, then their play drops off."

Giuseppe Giannini silenced the 75,000 crowd in Naples with a goal after 21 minutes following a quick break by Roma's West German striker Rudi Voeller and veteran defender Emidio Oddi hit a second after 71 minutes before Brazilian Careca scored a late consolation for Napoli.

With AC Milan, for whom Dutchman Ruud Gullit returned after suspension, being held 0-0

at home by Verona, Napoli stayed four points clear at the top.

In West Germany, Voeller's former club Werder Bremen maintained the same margin of leadership with their big win after falling behind to an early goal.

Karl-Heinz Riedle pulled Bremen level and then second-half goals from Frank Neubarth, two, Norbert Meier and another Riedle effort completed the rout



Sanchez gets his 22nd goal of the season

to keep them well ahead of Bayern Munich.

The European Cup quarter-finalists recovered from their disappointing 3-2 victory over Real Madrid by winning 3-0 at Nuremberg.

With captain Klaus Augenthaler restored to his favourite libero role, they silenced a 49,000 crowd with goals from Armin Eck, Welshman Mark Hughes and a penalty by Lothar Matthaeus.

Spanish leaders Real Madrid increased their advantage over city rivals Atletico, who were held to a 0-0 draw at lowly Real Murcia, with their comfortable win over Espanol.

Midfielder Michel and Mexican striker Hugo Sanchez, with his 22nd of the season, hit the important goals. Third-placed Real Sociedad lost 0-1 at home Basque rivals Athletic Bilbao.

"It was a bit harder than usual for my players," said Real

Madrid's Dutch coach Leo Beenhakker, "but they found just the right spirit after such a tough European Cup game."

In France, Monaco recovered after two 0-0 draws, England striker Mark Hateley scoring twice in their 4-1 win over Cannes. Patrice Mege and Jean-Philippe Rohr scored the other goals.

Despite their win, Monaco were unimpressive. Hateley said: "We won 4-1, but we played badly."

Third-placed Bordeaux drew 0-0 at Niot while their European Cup quarter-final opponents PSV Eindhoven, with whom they drew 1-1 last week, reeled off their 21st win in 24 Dutch League games.

They thrashed VVV Venlo 5-0. Eric Viscaal scoring four times. PSV have hit 93 goals this season and lead Ajax, held 1-1 at Den Haag, by nine points.

Resumption

Another four-goal striker was Danish international John Eriksen who scored all of Sevett's goals in their 4-1 win over St Gallen on the resumption of the Swiss League after its winter break.

In Portugal, strikers Mats Magnusson and Rui Aguiar scored two each as Benfica, fresh from a 2-0 win over Anderlecht in a European Cup quarter-final first leg, beat Sporting Lisbon 4-1 to stay seven points behind unbeaten leaders Porto.

Union hold on to beat YMCA

UNION Cricket Club scored a four-wicket victory over YMCA in the Winners Cup Cricket Tournament at the Ahmadi Governorate ground on Friday morning.

YMCA skipper won the toss and elected to bat, opening his innings through Bashir and Arif. The Union bowlers, especially, Azam, stuck to their task and by the 9th over YMCA were 45 for three.

Ambrose and Ifkhar took the score to 64 before another wicket fell. YMCA kept losing their wickets at regular intervals and by the end of their 30 allotted overs had compiled 164 for the loss of nine wickets.

Satyan was the top scorer for YMCA with 42. Azam was the main wicket-taker for Union with three for eight. Arshad captured two wickets while Abid and Shehzad got one each.

Target

Union opened their innings through Mehboob and Salim who put on 38 runs for the first wicket. Mehboob kept on batting well and was finally out for 43. Khadim held his end intact and also scored 43 as Union went past the victory target for the loss of six wickets and only three balls to spare.

Ambrose took two wickets while Peter, Parker and Ibrar got one each.

SPORTS

SPORTS BRIEFS

Bahrain win

BAHRAIN beat Oman 2-0 yesterday in the 9th Gulf Football Championship being currently held in Saudi Arabia. Both the goals were scored in 2nd half. This evening Qatar meet United Arab Emirates while Kuwait take on Iraq.

Polish climber

ISLAMABAD, March 7, (Reuters): A Polish climber has made the first winter ascent of Broad Peak, an 8,048-metre mountain in Kashmir, an expedition spokeswoman said today. Maciej Berbeka, 33, from Zakopane near Krakow, reached the summit alone yesterday.

Stiff opposition

LONDON, March 7, (Reuters): Boris Becker, Wimbledon champion in 1985 and 1986, will face stiff opposition when he defends his London grasscourt tennis title here in June. Already ranged against him are current Wimbledon champion Pat Cash from Australia, Sweden's world number three Stefan Edberg, and former winners Jimmy Connors and Tim Mayotte from the United States.

Rugby match

LONDON, March 7, (Reuters): England will field the side that finished the match in Scotland on Saturday when they complete their Five Nations Rugby Union programme against Ireland at Twickenham on March 19.

Indianapolis 500

INDIANAPOLIS, March 7, (UPI): Mario Andretti and Bobby Rahal have been entered for the 1988 Indianapolis 500, joining Johnny Rutherford on the list of former winners entered for the 72nd annual race.

American Cup

FAIRFAX, Virginia, March 7, (UPI): Phoebe Mills and Romanian Marius Toba won the all-round titles yesterday at the McDonald's American Cup, the last major international gymnastics competition before the 1988 Summer Olympics.

Top boxer

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico, March 7, (AP): Urine samples taken immediately after Bernardo Pinango of Venezuela won the World Boxing Association super bantamweight title tested positive for cocaine, an official confirmed yesterday.

Boat race

LONDON, March 7, (UPI): Oxford University, bidding for their 12th win in 13 boat races, named six members of the crew which upset Cambridge last year for the 1988 confrontation on April 2.

English players

LONDON, March 7, (UPI): Nottingham Forest manager Brian Clough has called on his fellow soccer managers to fight to stop an exodus of English soccer's top players to foreign clubs.

England-New Zealand Test abandoned

Pitches, weather blamed for drawn series

WELLINGTON, March 7, (Reuters): Slow, low pitches and one of the worst summers on record, rather than tactics, were blamed for the drawn three-Test series between England and New Zealand.

This is the first time in 22 years that a series in New Zealand has produced no result. The last time was in 1965/66, also against England.

The series fizzled out today when the third Test was abandoned because of heavy rain and strong winds without a ball being bowled on the final two days.

Shone
All indications pointed to a draw even if the sun had shone. Only nine wickets fell in the first three days and England were only about one-third of the way into their first innings in reply to New Zealand's 512 for six declared.

As with the other two games of the series, New Zealand's run rate rarely rose above two per over.

Only in Wellington did reasonable crowds turn up to watch compared with previous years. They had already been denied the excitement of Richard Hadlee's effort to break the Test wicket record because the great bowler was injured in the first Test.

New Zealand Cricket Council chairman Bob Vance admitted to concern about the lack of crowd support and financial reward for the council.

Both team managers, New Zealand's GREN ALABASTER and

FIRST AND SECOND XV CLINCH KO CUPS

Nomads make Gulf rugby history

KUWAIT Nomads made Gulf rugby history on Friday at the Fintas Park, becoming the first club to win both the 1st and 2nd XV KO Cup competitions in the same season.

For the 1st XV, it was their first ever success in the competition, and victory was all the sweeter for being against their closest rivals in all competitions this season, Dubai Exiles.

The match was not a classic of open rugby, but the committed supporters of both sides were never bored, as the Nomads did not make the game safe until late in the second half. It is fast becoming a Nomads 1st XV trait that they give their opponents a head start, and Friday was no exception, a Richard Ferris penalty giving Dubai an early 3-0 lead.

Penalty

Graham Adams missed a couple of long range chances, but eventually put over the equalising penalty, only for Ferris to reply almost immediately.

Adams then ensured that Kuwait went into the break on level terms with another well hit penalty, and with the elements in their favour, the Nomads looked well set to take the match. However, Dubai were not going down without a fight, and were making life extremely difficult for the Nomads.

Inevitably though, the Exiles were forced into conceding pen-



Nomads First XV squad.

alties, one of which rebounded from the goal post and from the ensuing maul Dubai transgressed again to give Adams a simple chance for the 9-6 lead. The Nomads went 12-6 up when Adams' penalty attempt hit first the post then the bar before being knocked forward by the Dubai defence. From the scrumage in front of the posts, Adams dropped a goal.

Range

The Nomads put the game beyond doubt when Adams hit the target from long range for his fourth penalty of the match, giving Kuwait a 15-6 victory.

Peter Underwood, General Manager of TNT Skypak, the

Nomads' sponsors, presented the Cup to Nomads' captain to Steve Hill, who raised the trophy to the ecstatic cheers of the home support.

Now the attention turned to the 2nd XV hoping to emulate the premier side in their final against Bahrain. The visitors had brought a strong side, many with first team experience, but then the Nomads were similarly equipped. With the wind at their backs in the first half, it was important for Kuwait to get off to a good start. This they did, spending long periods in the Bahrain half, though the visitors' pack were winning crucial ball to relieve the pressure.

Kuwait took the lead from a blind side break, with scrum half John Levitt and the back row of Eley, Young, and Hodgkinson all involved before Bennett burst through and went round under the posts to score. Jones converted for a 6-0 lead.

Rewarded

The Nomads kept up the pressure and were trying to handle whenever possible. Their enterprise was rewarded when the ball flashed through several pairs of hands from good second phase possession, and Levitt dived into the corner for a ten point advantage at the interval. Kuwait continued to try and

move the ball wide and were unlucky not to extend their lead early in the second period, the last pass usually letting them down. However, as the game wore on, Bahrain were pinning the Nomads back in their own half with downfield kicks. One of these kicks found the Bahrain pack up in force to secure the ball and gave Len Guy the chance to drive over in the corner for a try.

In the final quarter of the match, Bahrain threw all they had at the Nomads line, but the Kuwait defence was resolute and kept the visitors at bay, for a wonderful Nomads' double celebration. The cheers as Peter Underwood presented the trophy to Peter Jones were no less loud than those for the 1st XV win and underlined the spirit and feeling throughout the club.

Retention

With the Nomads' International season now over, they anxiously wait to see if Dubai can defeat Muscat next week, a result that would ensure the retention of the Gulf Merit Table Title.

Meanwhile the attention switches to domestic matters, with two busy months of the season remaining. On Friday at Fintas Park, the Club hosts its 2nd Annual 10x3 km relay run, and on Sunday evening there will be a match between the "Leavers" and the "Stayers", kick off at 7.30 p.m.



Spectators approach the body of a man killed during the race. (Reuters wirephoto)

16 killed at car race

NEOCHEA, Argentina, March 7, (AP): A race car blew a tire and plunged into a crowd of spectators yesterday, killing at least 16 persons and injuring more than a dozen others, police said.

Authorities said the car, a Dodge driven by Argentine driver Edgardo Caparros, was participating in a tourism class race for modified stock cars outside this city, 375 miles south of Buenos Aires.

Section

Witnesses said Caparros, who was hospitalised, was going 125 mph when the tire blew and the vehicle overturned, rolling into a crowd of onlookers, including families who had been picnicking beside the race course, a closed-off section of highway.

"It was terrible," said driver Luis Fernandez, who was following Caparros. "His car went off the track like an arrow."

The race, the second of the season, was suspended following the accident. Tourism class racing is very popular in Argentina and the races attract large numbers of spectators.

Authorities said both Caparros and his co-pilot, Alberto Belio, were under treatment in the intensive care unit of a private clinic.

British team's travel plans kept secret

LONDON, March 7, (Reuters): Travel arrangements for British athletes taking part in the World Cross-country Championships in New Zealand are being kept secret in a bid to thwart demonstrations against South African-born Zola Budd.

Tony Ward, spokesman for the British Amateur Athletics Board (BAAB), said today: "In the interests of all members of the team we are not saying when they depart or where they are staying."

"We do not want to give any assistance to those planning to be at the airport or trying to disrupt the team's preparations."

Budd, controversially granted speedy British citizenship prior to the 1984 Olympic Games, last week gave written assurances to athletic officials that she had cut her ties with South Africa.

Some African countries have threatened to boycott the championships in Auckland on March 26 if Budd, world champion in 1985 and 1986, was allowed to run. But BAAB chairman Ewan Murray said at the weekend there was no question of her being withdrawn.

Title fight

TOKYO, March 7, (Reuters): Undisputed heavyweight boxing champion Mike Tyson stepped up his training to 10 rounds today in preparation for his world title fight on March 21 against fellow American Tony Tubbs.

Tyson's assistant manager Steve Lott said: "He is in perfect condition. He will step up his sparring this week and may box 15 rounds on Wednesday."

Fenech claims third world title

SYDNEY, March 7, (Reuters): Jeff Fenech of Australia made light of a broken right hand to claim his third world title by stopping Victor Callejas of Puerto Rico in the 10th round of their 12-round featherweight title fight today.

Fenech's victory in the World Boxing Council (WBC) bout between two former super-bantamweight champions was not in doubt after he felled Callejas in the third round.

Convinced

The 27-year-old from San Juan went down again in the eighth for his second standing count and two more rounds of relentless jabbing from Fenech convinced American referee Richard Steele to stop the fight after one minute 21 seconds of the 10th.

Fenech, a former International Boxing Federation ban-

tamweight champion and WBC super-bantamweight titleholder, is the 11th boxer to claim three world titles.

He has completed the feat in less bouts than anyone in history. The 'Marrickville Mauler' is unbeaten in 20 professional bouts, 16 of which he has won inside the distance.

Fenech's triumph in front of 12,000 hometown fans was built on an imposing left jab and greater fitness which wore down Callejas, who looked unhappy at featherweight.

After the fight Fenech revealed he had been training for a month with a broken right hand but had made his chiropractor promise not to tell anyone, including trainer Johnny Lewis.

The fight began at a furious pace but by the third it had been reduced to a question of when

and how Fenech was going to trap Callejas and inflict the first defeat of the Puerto Rican for nine years.

Callejas' shorter reach put him at a disadvantage but it was Fenech's greater speed and unrelenting aggression which caused most problems.

Plumb

A left elbow in the face and a head butt in the second caused an angry Fenech to raise the pace but Callejas curled up on the ropes to save himself from punishment.

In the third, Fenech spotted the gap he had been waiting for. A right plumb on the nose followed by a left to the stomach dumped Callejas on the bottom rope and then the canvas.

The bell for the end of the round saved the former World Boxing Association (WBA) champion who concentrated on

Barkley stops Olajide in 5th round

NEW YORK, March 7, (AP): Iran Barkley got up from a fourth-round knockdown to knock down Mike Olajide Jr and stop him in the fifth round of a scheduled 10-round middleweight fight yesterday at the Felt Forum.

"Did I get knocked down? Somebody answer me," Barkley said at a post-fight press conference.

He might not have remembered it, but he certainly did get knocked down — with a left hook to the chin with about a minute left in the fourth round. He struggled up at about the count of five and managed to last the round.

About 10 seconds into the fifth round, Barkley put Olajide down

for the second time in the fight. He caught him with a looping left hook to the head. Olajide then got up and took the mandatory eight count, and then Barkley threw punches for about a minute before referee Arthur Mercante Jr stopped the bout at 1:12.

Many of the punches missed, but a lot of them landed, and Olajide did little punching back.



Hadlee: not fit for one-day matches

England's Micky Stewart, blamed the pitches rather than tactics for the lack of entertainment.

Both sides denied adopting no-risk tactics in the final Test.

"Our aim in this series was to win two-nil. It was disappointing not to have the conditions and the surface to play on," Alabaster said in a telephone interview.

Stewart said batting on Christ-

church and Auckland pitches was a matter of survival and stroke-making was impossible.

After the Auckland game, England captain Mike Gatting offered to dig up the Eden Park pitch. He criticised a pitch where fast bowler Graham Dilley could not bounce the new ball above the wickets.

Alabaster said poor weather had contributed to the under-

preparedness of the pitches. Stewart said England's poor catching record and the injury to fast bowler Neil Foster cost them wins.

Failure in the catching department could be attributed to mental and physical tiredness, he said.

"Since October, with the exception of a three-week break, we have been playing cricket continuously for six months, and that followed a five-month season."

The ideal for England was a three-month tour followed by a three-month lay-off. The New Zealand tour followed the controversy-plagued Pakistan tour.

New Zealand is keen to stage a five-Test series next time England visits and it seems the England tour management will be recommending this.

"New Zealand should be a full tour as far as we're concerned," Stewart said.

The absence through unavailability or non-selection of such crowd pleasers as David Gower, Ian Botham and Alan Lamb took away some of the series' appeal for spectators.

But with both sides currently rebuilding, the big plus was the emergence of new players such as Martyn Moxon, Mark Greatbatch and Ken Rutherford.

Without Hadlee for New Zealand, the bowling of both sides looked distinctly ordinary and it might have been the inability of either side to bowl the opposition out twice, which was

the real reason for the lack of results.

Meanwhile, the New Zealand cricket selectors pulled two surprises today in naming their team for the first two one-day internationals against England.

Auckland opener Richard Reid, 29, has been included in the 12-man squad for the games at Dunedin on Wednesday and Christchurch next Saturday.

Also getting his first chance in the national side is Northern Districts all-rounder Chris Kugeleijn, 31, who performed impressively for the Shell XI against England at New Plymouth early last month. Kugeleijn is a right-arm off-spinner and right-hand batsman.

Gone from the third Test team are batsmen Trevor Franklin and Robert Vance, fast bowler Danny Morrison and recalled left arm spinner Stephen Boock.

Missed

Auckland medium pacer Willie Watson is the third player brought in for the one-dayers. Wellington batsman Andrew Jones, who has missed the second and third Tests with a wrist injury, has been called back into the side.

Hadlee was still not fit enough for consideration.

The team is — John Wright (captain), Richard Reid, Andrew Jones, Martin Crowe, Mark Greatbatch, Ken Rutherford, John Bracewell, Chris Kugeleijn, Ian Smith, Martin Smedden, Willie Watson, Ewen Chatfield.



Salim: scored 86

Board XI make brisk start after Pakistan declare

KINGSTON, Jamaica, March 7, (Reuters): The West Indies Cricket Board President's XI made a brisk start to their first innings after Pakistan declared at 332 for nine on the second day of their four-day cricket match today.

Openers Phil Simmons and Wayne Lewis took two fours each off Pakistan captain Imran Khan as the home side reached 32 for no wicket in half an hour's batting before lunch.

Uncapped

After resuming at 279 for seven, Pakistan added a further 53 runs before declaring, with 48 provided by uncapped all-rounder Naveed Anjum, who batted 94 minutes and hit five fours and one six.

Winston Benjamin took the first of the two wickets to fall when Tauseef Ahmed touched a lifting delivery and was caught behind.

Untried former, the bowling successfully in an eighth wicket stand of 37 with Salim Jaffer until he hit a return catch to off-spinner Carl Hooper, who finished with four for 72.

Pakistan declared on his dismissal, opting not to recall opener Mudassar Nazar, who retired hurt yesterday after a blow on the helmet. An X-ray showed no serious injury.

Yesterday half centuries from Salim Malik (86) and Javed Miandad (63) sparked the touring side during a competition where their batsmen encountered problems with a new generation of West Indian fast bowlers.

Offspinners Roger Harper and Hooper took the first five wickets between them before the new ball claimed two victims before the close.

Pakistan had endured some hostile deliveries from the onset of the match.

Prince Charles' team triumphs

WEST PALM BEACH, Florida, March 7, (UPI): Britain's Prince Charles petted a cheetah yesterday at a society luncheon to benefit African wildlife and helped his Windsor Park polo team to a 6-4 victory over the Palm Beach, Florida, team.

The prince scored only once during the game, making a goal during the second period to tie the score at 2-2. He successfully defended his team's goal several times.

Treatment

"He seemed to be there all the time," said Stuart Mackenzie, the prince's teammate and New Zealand's highest-ranked player. "He defended very well." Mackenzie said the prince did not get deferential treatment during the match because of his royal title. "He acts like any other polo player," Mackenzie said. "You're all equal out there. That's why he enjoys it so much."

Gulf Bank Trophy

STARLITE meet Unity in the final of the Gulf Bank Trophy cricket tournament, organised by Unity Cricketers, at the New Ground in Ahmadi on Friday. Umpires will be from Gulf Bank. The game will start at 9.30 am and Mohammed Yousuf Al Saif, general manager, Domestic Banking Group, will be the chief guest. The prize distribution will be held on the same day.

Bowling tourney

THE Philippine Bowlers Association in Kuwait (PBAK) will hold an open bowling tournament on Friday, March 11, at the 300 Club. The tournament is open to all men and women and the fee is KD. 3.

Trophies and medals will be awarded to all the winners. More details are available at the 300 Club.

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